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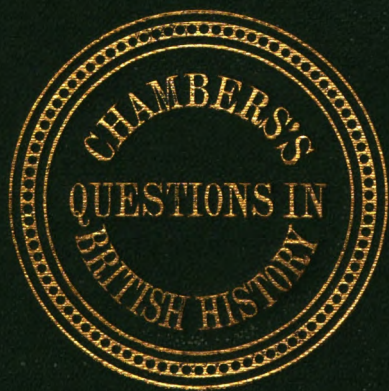
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QUESTIONS ON BRITISH HISTORY

AND THE  
BRITISH CONSTITUTION

WITH ANSWERS

*By W. Chambers, F.R.S.E., F.G.S.*



WILLIAM AND ROBERT CHAMBERS  
LONDON AND EDINBURGH

1866

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226. k. 41.

**Edinburgh :**  
**Printed by W. and R. Chambers.**

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*March 1866.*





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# BRITISH HISTORY.

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From Early Times until Edward I. 1272.

1. *What was the early condition of the British islands?*—When first mentioned in history, the British islands were occupied by a people of the same Celtic race as that in Gaul, who had made some progress in the arts and regular government previous to the Christian era.

2. *How did the word Britain originate?*—It is thought to be derived from the Celtic *brith* or *brit*, painted; the ancient inhabitants having painted their bodies with colours.

3. *What was the meaning of Albion applied to Britain?*—The term Albion or Albany signified a country of heights, and was used by writers in the fourth century B. C. This very ancient designation is still preserved by the Highlanders of Scotland, and it is also used in a fanciful way by the English.

4. *Who were the Druids?*—They are said to have been the priests, teachers, judges, and depositaries of learning in the Celtic nations previous to the introduction of Christianity; such, at least, were the Druids as briefly described by Cæsar in Gaul and Britain.

5. *What is the origin of the term Druid?*—It is commonly said to be derived from the British word *dru*, an oak; for the Druids performed their pagan religious rites in open spaces, surrounded with tall stones amidst oak woods. According to tradition, they revered the mistletoe, a parasitic plant which grows on the oak and other trees. All accounts of the Druids, however, are obscure and unsatisfactory.

6. *What is Stonehenge?*—It is a remarkable group of tall

stones, standing in an open moor in Wiltshire, believed to be the remains of a gigantic Druidic temple.



Stonehenge.

7. *When did Julius Cæsar first visit Britain?*—Cæsar first invaded Britain 55 B.C. ; and he returned the following year with a greater force ; but on neither occasion did he effect any permanent conquest.

8. *Who was Caractacus ?*—He was a British prince, chief of the Silures (a tribe of South Wales), who made an unavailing defence against the Romans on their third invasion of Britain, 43 A.D. He was sent a prisoner to Rome, 50 A.D.

9. *Who was Boadicea ?*—She was a British princess, who made an ineffectual stand against the Romans, 61—62 A.D.

10. *Who was Agricola ?*—He was a Roman general, who was appointed governor of Britain, 78 A.D., and by him the island was in a great measure subdued. Agricola marched with his army northward, planted permanent camps, and fought some great battles against the Caledonians.

11. *What was the nature of Roman camps ?*—They were usually intrenchments of earth with intervening ditches, enclosing a large space of a square form. On each side of the square there was an entrance ; one of which was called the Prætorian gate, because it led to the tent of the Prætor or commander. The larger class of these camps accommodated from 12,000 to 20,000 men.

12. *Who were the Caledonians ?*—Such was the name given to the northern inhabitants of Britain—the term, it is believed, signifying dwellers in woods.

13. *Did Agricola subdue the Caledonians ?*—No ; he and his successors found them unconquerable, on account of the remote and inaccessible nature of their retreats ; for security against their attacks, the Romans built walls across the island.

14. *When was the first Roman wall built?*—It was built in the year 121 A.D., by the Emperor Hadrian, between the river Tyne and the Solway Firth. The second wall was built in the reign of the Emperor Antoninus about 140 A.D., in order to connect a line of forts which Agricola had formed between the firths of Forth and Clyde. Both of these walls were of earth.

15. *Did these walls restrain the Caledonians?*—No; though well defended by Roman soldiers, the walls were often broken through by the indomitable natives.

16. *How far did the Romans ever get northwards?*—They are believed to have reached the north-east end of Loch Ness, near the modern town of Inverness; but they made no permanent stay, and were obliged to retire southwards.

17. *When was the third Roman wall erected?*—It was erected 207 A.D., by the Emperor Severus, near that formerly executed by Hadrian; the remains of the wall of Severus, which was built of stone, are still shewn. Severus died at Eboracum (now the city of York), 211 A.D., at which place died also the Emperor Constantius, 306 A.D.

18. *What was Hibernia?*—Hibernia was the name given by the Romans to Ireland; but they did not invade that island, which continued to be ruled by Celtic chiefs.

19. *What was the nature of the Roman occupation of Britain?*—They retained the island, so far as conquered, as a part of the Roman empire, exacted tribute, carried away natives to be slaves or auxiliary soldiers to Rome, built towns, made roads, and introduced a variety of foreign usages.

20. *Did the Romans introduce their language into Britain?*—No; the people continued to speak the native British or Celtic, and from their tongue is derived the greater number of our names of such natural objects as rivers, mountains, &c.

21. *How did the Romans keep up their communication with Gaul?*—It was by means of galleys across the straits to Calais, and also by vessels from London on the Thames, which had already become a place of considerable trade and importance.

22. *What is the meaning of the word Calais?*—Calais is derived from a Celtic term signifying a strait, which term is radically the same as *Kyles*, applied to various small straits in Scotland.

23. *What is meant by 'Watling Street'?*—Such was the name given to the chief Roman road in Britain, which extended from Kent to Cardigan Bay. It was constructed by order of the Roman general Vitellianus, whose name was

corrupted by the natives into Watelain ; and hence Watling Street.

24. *How long did the Romans occupy Britain?*—They remained between 300 and 400 years. About 420 A.D., their soldiers were wholly withdrawn in order to defend Italy against the attacks of the Goths, after which the stirring events in British history commence.

25. *Of what does British History consist?*—It consists of two separate narratives, one concerning England, and the other, Scotland, or the more northerly section of Britain ; and these narratives remain distinct until 1707, when the two nations were legislatively united on terms of equality.

26. *Does each narrative embrace the account of a distinct series of sovereigns?*—Yes ; England and Scotland had each its own series of kings, under whom the two nations were often at war ; and the interest of their history turns not a little on the intrepid manner in which Scotland, the poorer and less populous kingdom, was able for ages to preserve its ancient independence against the assaults of its more powerful neighbour.

27. *What explanation is given of the long-continued independence of Scotland?*—The proper explanation is, that Scotland became consolidated under one monarchy before the English were in a condition to attack it ; and further, that the Scots, with all their internal dissensions, ordinarily acted with resolute patriotism when assailed from without.

28. *Has Ireland a similarly separate history?*—No ; as that island was attached by conquest to the English monarchy while it was under the rule of various petty kings or chiefs, its history is usually merged in that of England.

29. *What is known of the ancient state of Ireland?*—The island was divided into the provinces of Ulster, Munster, Leinster, and Connaught, each having its own king ; there was also a king who ruled over the central district of Meath, to whom the others were in some degree subject. Of this early period, there are numerous interesting memorials which engage the attention of archæologists.

30. *What is Tara?*—Tara, or Tarah, is a small conical hill in the county of Meath, where, it is said, there was a royal residence in very early times, and where assemblies, of the nature of a parliament, were held every three years. It is mentioned that St Patrick attended and took part at these conventions.

31. *What eminent poet refers to Tara?*—Moore commences

one of his pleasing *Irish Melodies* with the lines—

‘ The harp that once through Tara’s halls,  
The soul of music shed,  
Now hangs as mute on Tara’s walls,  
As if that soul were fled.’

32. *Who was St Patrick?*—He was a monk (said by some to be of Scottish birth) deputed from Rome by Pope Celestine to preach in Ireland. He arrived in that country in 432, and his mission was so successful that to him is assigned the honour of having Christianised the Irish people. It is said that he settled at Armagh about 454, and died in 460. He has ever since been venerated as the patron saint of Ireland.

33. *Who were the Saxons, Angles, and Jutes?*—They were warlike Teutonic tribes inhabiting that north-western part of Germany near the shores of the Baltic, which now comprehends the duchies of Holstein, Schleswig, and Jutland.

34. *Who was Vortigern?*—He was elected king in South Britain on the withdrawal of the Romans, and invited the Saxons to aid him in defending the country against the incursions of the Caledonians.

35. *What is the date of the arrival of the Saxons?*—It is 449 A. D.; there is reason, however, to believe that the Saxons had formed small colonies on the east coast of Britain, previous to this event, and were already acquainted with the country.

36. *Who were Hengist and Horsa?*—They are represented to have been leaders of the Saxons; but historians now consider them to have been only mythical heroes.

37. *Did the Saxons assist the British?*—Yes; but having done so, they made themselves masters of the country.

38. *When did the Angles arrive?*—They came either along with the Saxons, or shortly afterwards; and from their intermixture is derived the term Anglo-Saxon, applied to the mixed Teutonic races which settled in the southern part of Britain.

39. *What is the origin of the word England?*—It is only an abbreviation of Angleland, or the land of the Angles, by which the country became known.

40. *What was the fate of the native British?*—The greater number submitted to the Saxons and Angles, and were accordingly blended in the general population; but many sought refuge among the mountains of Wales and Cumberland, and others fled to that part of France, which from them has been called Brittany.



41. *What did the Welsh call themselves?*—They called themselves the *Cymri*, a term signifying countrymen, or those who were not foreigners. The modern word Cumberland is derived from the same root.

42. *Who was King Arthur?*—He was a king of the *Cymri* or Welsh at the beginning of the sixth century, and made a resolute stand against the Anglo-Saxons. He was mortally wounded in battle, and died 542. Arthur and his heroic deeds have given rise to numerous fabulous legends.

43. *Who were the Picts?*—They were the more northern Caledonians, who had not submitted to the Romans, and were of the same Celtic race as the aboriginal British.

44. *Who were the Scots?*—They were tribes of Celts from Ireland, who settled in that western part of North Britain now called Argyleshire; having in time gained the ascendancy over the Picts, the country was from them called Scotland.

45. *Who was King Fergus?*—He is reputed to have been the first king of the Scots, who began what is known as the Dalriad dynasty. The term *Dalriad* signifies 'the country of the race of Riad,' which country was in the north of Ireland, whence the Scots emigrated to North Britain.

46. *Did the Saxons and Angles effect any settlements in North Britain?*—Yes; they established themselves in that part of the country situated between the Forth and the Tyne, and it is known that various Scandinavian colonies were also formed along the eastern shores of the country.

47. *What was the Heptarchy?*—Such was the name given to seven Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, called Kent, East-Anglia, Mercia, Essex, Sussex, Wessex, and Northumbria—this last including a portion of what is now Scotland. The term Heptarchy signifies seven governments.

48. *When did the Heptarchy commence?*—It is impossible to tell exactly, but Mercia, the latest of the seven Anglo-Saxon States, was founded in 586. Including the Welsh, Cumbrian, Pictish, Scottish, and other petty states, there were at least fourteen different governments at one time in Britain; among which several languages, native and foreign, were in use.

49. *When was Christianity introduced into Britain?*—It was made partially known during the Roman dominion, and was afterwards propagated by various missionaries from Rome, and also from Ireland.

50. *Mention the names of the more remarkable Missionaries to Britain.*—St Ninian, St Columba, St Kentigern or Mungo, and St Augustine. By the three first mentioned, who are

usually spoken of as Culdees, Christianity was made generally known in Scotland before St Augustine appeared in England.

51. *Who were the Culdees?*—They were priests or monks in the early ages of Christianity in the British islands, and are known to have had several monastic establishments in Ireland and Scotland. The term Culdee is from the Celtic Irish language, and signifies an attendant on God.

52. *Did the Culdees differ in doctrine or discipline from the Church of Rome?*—Not materially; it was long thought that the Culdees held some other form of Christianity than that of the Church of Rome, but late investigations shew that they did not differ in any material point of faith, discipline, or ritual from the other Catholic clergy of the period; ultimately, the Culdees, generally, became known as Canons Regular.

53. *When did St Columba begin his missionary labours?*—He came from Ireland in 563, and under favour of Connal, a king of the Dalriad dynasty, commenced by establishing a religious settlement in the small island of I, now called Iona, whence the light of Christianity was diffused over the north-western Caledonian regions.

54. *Who was St Augustine?*—He was a monk deputed from Rome by Gregory I. in the year 596, to convert the Anglo-Saxons, in which great work he was successful. He became first archbishop of Canterbury. By the labours of St Augustine and others, Christianity was very generally diffused, and an ecclesiastical system established about the end of the sixth century.

55. *How long did the Heptarchy endure?*—It lasted until 827, when Egbert, king of Wessex, gained an ascendancy over the other states, and united the whole into one sovereignty. This event marks the origin of the kingdom of England.

56. *Who was Alfred?*—Alfred, usually styled 'Alfred the Great,' was the grandson of Egbert, and as king of England was famed for his courage, sagacity, and amiable disposition. During his reign, which began in 871, England was invaded by the Danes, who for a time usurped the government; but



Alfred the Great.

Alfred afterwards reduced them, and allowed them to settle in England. Alfred died 901.

57. *Did the Danes again invade England?*—Yes; they came in great force in 1013, and having overthrown the Anglo-Saxons, they established a Danish dynasty.

58. *How many kings were there of the Danish dynasty?*—Four—Sweyn, Canute, Harold, and Hardicanute; of these the most noted was Canute, who ruled with great discretion.

59. *What is the story about Canute and the sea?*—It is related that his courtiers affected to think that all things would be obedient to his command. In order to reprove their adulation, he caused his chair to be placed on the sea-shore while the tide was coming in, and commanded the waves to retire. The sea, however, continued to advance, and at length surrounded his chair, whereupon Canute represented to his courtiers the limited nature of all earthly power.

60. *Did the Danes ravage Ireland?*—Yes; they made several descents on Ireland in the ninth and tenth centuries; they also committed great havoc in various parts of that country, at the beginning of the eleventh century.

61. *Who was Brian Boroihme?*—Brian Boroihme (pronounced *Borou*), was a king or chieftain of note in Ireland, who defeated the Danes at the battle of Clontarf, in 1014.

62. *What was the nature of the Anglo-Saxon Institutions?*—They were favourable to justice and liberty. To the Anglo-Saxons is traced that love of constitutional government, and also that sense of justice, which distinguish the character of the English.

63. *Mention two important Anglo-Saxon institutions?*—The Witenagemôte, and trial by jury.

64. *What was the Witenagemôte?*—It was a species of parliament called together by the king to decide on affairs of state; the term literally signifies a meeting of wise men.

65. *What was Trial by Ordeal?*—It was an Anglo-Saxon method of determining facts in criminal cases, too intricate for ordinary judgment. Chance ruled the decision. The accused was ordered to grasp red-hot iron, and if his hand shewed marks of burning, he was held to be guilty; if his hand was uninjured, he was held to be innocent. Prayers accompanied this and other forms of trial by ordeal, which was meant as a direct appeal to the Deity.

66. *Did differences of rank prevail in Anglo-Saxon times?*—Yes; there was an aristocracy, or body of nobles, who bore the title of eorls or earls, among whom was an officer called

an *ealdorman* (meaning 'older man' or 'senator')—hence the modern term *alderman*.

67. *What were the duties of the Eorl?*—He was the principal officer in a district, and had a deputy called *scirgerēfa*—a term now modified into the word *sheriff*. Hence shires, or counties as they were afterwards named, when presided over by Norman counts, were of Anglo-Saxon origin.

68. *What were Thanes?*—Thanes were landholders of high rank; proprietors of lesser distinction were called *Franklins*.

69. *Did Serfdom exist under the Anglo-Saxons?*—Yes; the majority of the people were in a servile state, and the Norman barons only increased the rigour of the servitude in which the 'thralls' were kept by the Saxon thanes. Many of the Franklins, it is believed, lost their lands and liberty at the Conquest.

70. *Who was Edward the Confessor?*—He was an Anglo-Saxon prince, who was chosen king on the death of Hardicanute, 1042, by which means the old Anglo-Saxon dynasty was restored. Edward was surnamed the Confessor on account of his piety. He died 1066.

71. *Who was Harold?*—He was son of Godwin, Earl of Wessex, who, on the death of Edward the Confessor, usurped the crown, to the prejudice of Prince Edgar Atheling, the nearest heir of the deceased king, and remained in power till defeated by William the Conqueror.

72. *Who was William the Conqueror?*—He was Duke of Normandy, a warlike and ambitious personage, who contested the right of Harold to the crown, and with a large force of Normans invaded England, 1066.

73. *What was the battle of Hastings?*—It was a battle fought near Hastings, on the south coast of England, between William of Normandy and Harold, October 14, 1066, in which Harold was defeated and slain.

74. *What has William's seizure of England been usually called?*—It has been styled the Norman Conquest, and forms a leading event in English history, for it terminated the rule of the Anglo-Saxons, and introduced a Norman-French dynasty, along with the feudal system, and many new families of foreign lineage.

75. *What is William styled in English history?*—He is styled William I., or William the Conqueror.

76. *Did William I. relinquish his Norman dukedom?*—No; though settling as king in England, he retained his Norman

dukedom, a circumstance which long connected the English kings with France, and from which till this day the English hold possession of Guernsey, Jersey, and other Channel Islands.

77. *What was Domesday-Book?*—It was a minute survey of the greater part of England, executed by order of William I., and completed 1086. It states the names of proprietors of land and the extent of their possessions, and forms an invaluable record of the condition of England in the eleventh century.

78. *What was the Curfew?*—It was the ringing of a bell at sunset in winter and eight o'clock in summer, as a warning to put out the fire in every dwelling—the word curfew being a corruption of the French *couvre-feu*, cover-fire. The curfew is ordinarily said to have been imposed by William I., but it is known to have prevailed throughout Europe at an earlier period as a precaution against fires.

79. *What effect had the Norman Conquest on the English language?*—It was the means of introducing Norman-French, which was long the language of the court and the law; this French was in time blended with the Anglo-Saxon which previously prevailed, and the result, with a later admixture of Latin, was the modern English.

80. *Did William subvert the Anglo-Saxon institutions?*—No; but he added to them feudal usages, and from his time the titled aristocracy rose in social importance. The Saxon dignity of Thane was changed to Baron.

81. *What was Villenage?*—It was a peculiar tenure of land instituted after the Norman Conquest, and founded on the servile state of the occupants of the soil, who were allowed to hold land only on condition of performing menial services to their 'lord' or 'superior.' Persons in this servile state were styled *villeins*—hence the common English word *villain*.

82. *What were the Forest Laws?*—They were severe enactments of William the Conqueror respecting the royal forests and the preservation of deer and other wild animals. The 'game laws' of modern times are a remnant of these Norman forest laws.

83. *When was the Tower of London built?*—It was built by William the Conqueror, 1078; and the year following, William granted the first charter to the city of London.

84. *When did William the Conqueror die?*—He died in 1087, leaving the country in so powerful and settled a condition, that it never again was conquered by foreigners.

85. *What is learned from history of the early Scottish monarchy?*—Mention is made of a double series of kings, Scottish and Pictish, who were frequently at war with each other. At length, in the year 843, Kenneth, king of Scots, added the Pictish kingdom to his own, and the monarchy was still further consolidated by the annexation of Northumbria, by Malcolm II., in 1018.

86. *Who was Duncan?*—He was king of the Scots, who was killed by Macbeth, a usurper of the crown, 1039, on which event Malcolm, the eldest son of Duncan, fled to England for protection.

87. *Did Malcolm recover the Scottish crown?*—Yes; by the assistance of Edward the Confessor, he recovered the kingdom from Macbeth, who was slain in battle, 1056. Malcolm then ascended the throne as Malcolm III.; but he is better remembered as Malcolm *Canmore*, having been so called from his large head (*Cean-mohr*, Celtic for 'big head').

88. *Whom did Malcolm Canmore marry?*—He married Margaret, an Anglo-Saxon princess, one of the sisters of Edgar Atheling, who sought refuge in Scotland, 1068, after the Norman conquest of England. From her great piety, Queen Margaret was canonised, and is traditionally remembered as St Margaret.

89. *What influence did Queen Margaret exert over Scotland?*—She greatly contributed to spread a knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon tongue, and in her time Scotland became the refuge of many Anglo-Saxon chiefs. So many social meliorations took place at this period, that the reign of Malcolm Canmore marks an important era in Scottish history.

90. *When did Malcolm Canmore die?*—He was killed at the siege of Alnwick, in 1093. He was succeeded, after two brief usurpations, by his eldest surviving son, Edgar, who was succeeded by his next brother, Alexander I.

91. *Who was David I.?*—He was the youngest son of Malcolm Canmore and Queen Margaret, and ultimately succeeded to the throne in 1124. Like his mother, he was distinguished for his piety, which led him to build many splendid abbeys and religious houses of lesser note.

92. *When did written charters to property begin in Scotland?*—They began in the reign of David I. To his reign is also to be traced the settlement of Anglo-Norman chiefs, and the introduction of feudal tenure—by which, and previous advances, Scotland acquired a similarity of usages with England. David

died 1153, and was succeeded by his grandson, Malcolm IV., styled Malcolm the Maiden.

93. *When was the present border of England and Scotland settled?*—With some minor exceptions, the present border dates from 1157, in the reign of Malcolm IV., when Cumberland was severed from Scotland and attached to England.

94. *When did Malcolm IV. die?*—He died 1165; his successors were William the Lion, Alexander II., and Alexander III. This last prince, while still a youth, became king in 1249.

95. *What was the battle of Largs?*—It was a battle of the Scots under Alexander III., fought 1263, in defence of the kingdom against Haco, king of Norway, who claimed the sovereignty of the Western Isles. The Scots were victorious, and Alexander, as the result of this important battle, secured the allegiance both of the Hebrides and the Isle of Man.

96. *Whom did Alexander III. marry?*—He married Margaret, eldest daughter of Henry III. of England, by whom he had an only child, Margaret, who was married to Eric, king of Norway, 1282; she died the following year, leaving an infant daughter, Margaret, commonly known as the 'Maiden of Norway.'

97. *What was the fate of Alexander III.?*—To the grief of the whole nation, he was killed by accident in 1285. The heir of his throne was Margaret, the Maiden of Norway, who died at the Orkney Isles on her way to Scotland, 1290, when there ensued a violent competition for the throne, followed by a disastrous civil war.

98. *Who succeeded William the Conqueror?*—His son, William II., surnamed *Rufus*, from the red colour of his hair.

99. *Mention some events in the reign of William Rufus.*—The crusades were begun in Continental Europe, 1096, and Westminster Hall was built, 1097.

100. *What were the Crusades?*—They were expeditions undertaken by several Christian powers in Europe, to rescue Palestine from the Turks, and make the Holy Places accessible to pilgrims. Each warrior wore a red cross on the right shoulder; hence, the French term *croisade*, signifying crossed, and from *croisade* is derived the English word *crusade*.

101. *Who was Peter the Hermit?*—He was a religious enthusiast in France, who by his preaching stimulated the first crusade, which took place in 1096.

102. *How many Crusades were there altogether?*—There were seven, extending from 1096 till about 1290; but some of them were of a very imperfect kind, and the whole were attended

with a great sacrifice of life. After possessing Jerusalem for some time, the Christian powers had to relinquish it in 1187, and were driven from Palestine. Pilgrimages, however, were permitted to the Holy Places—a practice which still continues.

103. *Were the crusades of any value to Europe?*—Though totally failing in their object, they did good service by stimulating inquiry, making the people of one country acquainted with those of other countries, and introducing a knowledge of arts formerly unknown.

104. *What was the fate of Rufus?*—He was accidentally killed by an arrow, shot by Sir Walter Tyrrell, in the New Forest, in 1100, and was succeeded by his brother Henry I., surnamed *Beauclerc*, from being a fine scholar.

105. *Who was 'Maud the Good'?*—Maud was the daughter of Malcolm Canmore, king of Scots, and wife of Henry I.

106. *What children had Henry and Maud?*—They had two; a son, William, who was lost at sea, and a daughter, Matilda or Maud, who, while still a child, married the emperor of Germany, after whose death she was married to Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, and had a son, Henry.

107. *Who succeeded Henry I.?*—At his death, in 1135, there was a contest for the crown. The proper heir was Henry Plantagenet, son of Matilda; but a usurper appeared in the person of Stephen, Count of Blois, son of Adele, fifth daughter of William the Conqueror; and he was allowed by a compromise, after a bloody struggle, to be king, on condition of being succeeded by Henry.

108. *Who built St Stephen's Chapel, adjoining Westminster Hall?*—It was built by King Stephen, and dedicated to his namesake, St Stephen, about 1135. Two centuries afterwards, St Stephen's was appropriated to the use of parliament.

109. *How did the Plantagenet dynasty originate?*—It originated by the accession of Henry Plantagenet to the throne as Henry II., on the decease of Stephen, in 1154.

110. *Who was Thomas à Becket?*—He was a man of learning and wisdom, and was appointed, first, Lord Chancellor of England; and afterwards, archbishop of Canterbury. Incurring the dislike of Henry II., by opposing Henry's schemes, a band of nobles murdered him, with a view to gratify the king. This foul murder of Becket took place in the cathedral of Canterbury, 1170.



111. *What were pilgrimages to Canterbury?*—They were pious expeditions undertaken by great numbers of persons to worship at Canterbury at the shrine of Thomas à Becket, who was canonised ; these pilgrimages continued till the sixteenth century.

112. *When was Ireland attached to the English monarchy?*—In 1155, Henry II. obtained a bull from Pope Adrian IV., authorising him to take possession of the island, and he did so about 1171, when he introduced the Norman legal system, and granted charters to property along with titles of distinction to his adherents ; the English rule in Ireland, however, was not confirmed till the reign of King John, 1210.

113. *When was the first London Bridge built?*—The first stone bridge across the Thames at London was begun in the reign of Henry II., 1176, and finished in 1209.

114. *Who was Richard Cœur-de-Lion?*—He was the eldest surviving son of Henry II., and ascended the throne on the death of his father, 1189. Richard gained celebrity as a crusader, and was surnamed *Cœur-de-Lion*, or *Lion-hearted*, on account of his bravery and magnanimity.

115. *What was the fate of Richard Cœur-de-Lion?*—He was killed by the wound of an arrow, shot from the castle of Chaluz, in Limoges, 1199. He was buried at the abbey of Fontrevault, where his tomb is still shewn.

116. *Who was King John?*—He was brother of Richard Cœur-de-Lion, whom he succeeded in 1199.

117. *What was Magna Charta?*—Magna Charta, or the Great Charter, was a deed subscribed by King John at Runnymede, near Windsor, in 1215, securing certain rights and privileges to the barons, clergy, and freemen. This charter, resting on certain Anglo-Saxon usages, and notions of common-sense, is reckoned the foundation of English liberty.



King John.

118. *Define two or three of the leading provisions of Magna Charta?*

—No tax is to be imposed without the consent of the great council of the realm ; no free man is to be imprisoned or

punished without lawful trial by jury, and if the trial is delayed, the accused can apply to be tried or set at liberty. The charter, however, took but little notice of serfs or villeins, and it was only in the progress of society that these humble classes at length participated in the privileges assured to the barons, clergy, and freemen.

119. *Who succeeded King John?*—He was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry III., 1216.

120. *When was Westminster Abbey built?*—The greater part of the abbey as it now exists was built in the reign of Henry III., about 1220, but portions remain of a previous church erected by Edward the Confessor; and it is said that the first church on the spot was built by Sibert, king of Essex, about 610.

121. *When was the Parliament of England first constituted?*—The first regularly constituted parliament, embracing knights, citizens, and burgesses, took place in the reign of Henry III., 1265. Previous parliaments had been of a less perfect kind; 1265 is therefore the date of a confirmed representation of the people in a House of Commons.

122. *Who succeeded Henry III.?*—He was succeeded in 1272 by his eldest son, Edward I., one of the greatest sovereigns of England.

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### From Edward I., 1272, to the Union of the Crowns, 1603.

123. *When did Edward I. conquer Wales?*—He conquered it and added it to the English monarchy in 1282. His infant son Edward was created Prince of Wales soon after his birth, and ever since, this title has pertained to the eldest son of the sovereign of England.

124. *Who was Queen Eleanor?*—She was the wife of Edward I., who held her in such high esteem, that at her death, in 1290, he erected a number of crosses to her memory. These edifices, usually called Norman crosses, were placed on spots where the body of Queen Eleanor rested in its funeral progress to Westminster. Among the number were the crosses at Northampton, St Albans, Waltham, and village of Charing—hence the name Charing Cross.

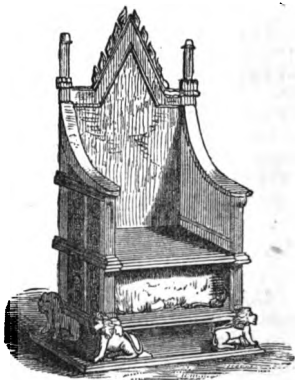
125. *What was the condition of the Jews in England in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries?*—They suffered great injustice and cruelty, were often subjected to grievous exactions, and always exposed to unmerited contumely. In 1290, upwards of 15,000 were banished from England. The maltreatment of the Jews rests as a stain on the memory of Edward I., and some other kings of the Plantagenet dynasty.

126. *Who were John Baliol and Robert Bruce?*—They were two Scottish nobles who competed for the throne of Scotland, after the decease of Margaret, grand-daughter of Alexander III., 1290; the dispute being referred to Edward I. as arbitrator, he decided in favour of Baliol, but soon stripped him of his sovereignty, and endeavoured by force of arms to take the kingdom to himself.

127. *What has Edward I. been called?*—He has been styled the *Hammer of the Scots*, from the manner in which he forcibly reduced the country to temporary subjection.

128. *What was the 'Stone of Scone'?*—It was a stone on which the kings of Scotland had been crowned at Scone (pronounced Scoon), and is said to be of great antiquity. This stone, being taken to England, is now attached to a chair of state in Westminster Abbey, on which the sovereigns are crowned.

129. *Who was William Wallace?*—He was a celebrated Scottish patriot, younger son of a gentleman in Renfrewshire, who endeavoured with great gallantry to expel the English from Scotland, but after various achievements, was by treachery delivered to Edward, and subjected to a cruel death in London, 1305.



Westminster Chair of State.

130. *Who was Robert I.?*—He was Robert Bruce, son of the Earl of Cartick, and grandson of the Robert Bruce who competed for the crown of Scotland with Baliol.

131. *When did Edward I. die?*—He died in 1307, and was succeeded by his son, Edward II., who continued to trouble the Scots until they made a stand for national independence at Bannockburn, a place in the neighbourhood of Stirling.

132. *When was the battle of Bannockburn fought?*—It was fought in the reign of Edward II., on the 24th of June 1314. By this celebrated battle, in which Robert I. was victorious, and by which he was established as king, the Scots for a time freed themselves from the English rule.

133. *When did Edward II. die?*—After being dethroned January 20, 1327, he was murdered at Berkeley Castle, on the 21st of September following, and was succeeded by his son Edward III.

134. *Did Edward III. endeavour to enforce the English rule in Scotland?*—Yes; he favoured the claims of Edward Baliol, son of John Baliol, on the death of Robert I.—Baliol doing homage for the assistance so rendered to him. The English now invaded Scotland, and committed much devastation; eventually Baliol had to flee, and the Scots continued their struggle for independence.

135. *When did Robert I. die?*—He died in 1329, and left an only son, a child by a second marriage, David II., during whose minority the government was administered by an eminent regent, Randolph, Earl of Moray. By his first marriage, Robert I. left a daughter, Marjory.

136. *Did David II. enjoy the throne peacefully?*—No; he had to continue the national contests with the English, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Neville's Cross, near Durham, 1346; after being kept in captivity eleven years, he was at length released by Edward III., on paying a heavy ransom, 1357—which year is the real date of Scottish independence, after the long and unhappy struggle with the English.

137. *When did David II. die?*—He died without issue, 1371; his death terminating the Bruce dynasty.

138. *When did the Stuart dynasty begin?*—The Stuart or Stewart dynasty began with Robert II., nephew and successor of David II. Robert was a son of Marjory Bruce, who had married Walter, Lord High Steward of Scotland, and hence his surname.

139. *Who succeeded Robert II.?*—At his death, 1390, he was succeeded by his son, John, who assumed the designation of Robert III., and died 1406.

140. *Who succeeded Robert III.?*—He was succeeded by his son James I., who, while on his way to France to be educated, was captured by the English, and kept eighteen years as a prisoner; during this period, however, he received a courtly education, and before quitting England was married to Lady Jane Beaufort, daughter of John, first Earl of Somerset.

141. *Was James an accomplished prince?*—Yes; he was one of the most accomplished men of his time. He was the author of several poems, the best known of which is entitled the *King's Quair* (Quire or Book). Having given offence to the nobles by his vigorous and upright government, he was barbarously murdered at Perth, 1437.



James I.

142. *Who succeeded James I. of Scotland?*—He was succeeded by his son, James II., during whose reign the country was troubled with the pretensions of the Douglases, a powerful noble family; one of them, William, eighth Earl of Douglas, being invited to Stirling Castle, was there assassinated by the king, 1452—an act often quoted to shew the barbarous character of the period. James II. was killed by the bursting of a cannon at the siege of Roxburgh, 1460.

143. *Who succeeded James II.?*—He was succeeded by his son, James III., who in 1468 married a Danish princess, whose dowry was 60,000 florins, for which the Orkney and Shetland Islands were given in pledge. As the dowry was never paid, these islands remained a possession of the Scots, and still constitute a part of the British dominions.

144. *What was the fate of James III.?*—Having given some dissatisfaction to a body of his nobles, they revolted against his authority; a battle ensued at Sauchieburn, when James, having sought refuge in a cottage, was murdered, 1488. His successor was his son, James IV.

145. *What claim did Edward III. make to France?*—He pretended a right to the crown through his mother; and taking the title of king of France, 1340, he assumed for his motto, *Dieu et mon Droit* ('God and my right'), which has ever since been borne by the kings of England. He gained the famous battle of Cressy, 1346; and in 1347, after a long siege, captured Calais, which long remained in the possession of the English.

146. *What memorable incident took place at the capture of Calais?*—Edward designed to hang six of the citizens; but their lives were spared at the intercession of his queen, Philippa—an interesting incident in English history.

147. *Who was Edward the Black Prince?*—He was eldest

son of Edward III., and was called the Black Prince from the colour of his armour. He greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Cressy, 1346; among the killed was the king of Bohemia, whose crest, consisting of three ostrich feathers, with the motto *Ich Dien* (I serve), was adopted by Edward, and has ever since been borne by the Princes of Wales.



Prince of Wales's Motto  
and Feathers.

148. *When was the battle of Poitiers fought?*—It was fought in 1356, when Edward the Black Prince gained a victory over the French.

149. *What was the 'Statute of Kilkenny'?*—It was an act of the Irish parliament, which was passed in 1367, in the reign of Edward III., decreeing excommunication and heavy penalties against all who followed the customs of, or allied themselves with, the native Irish. This famous act never had much efficacy beyond the Pale.

150. *What was the Pale?*—It was a district of country round the seat of government, over which the English rule was acknowledged and obeyed—all beyond the Pale being held by an imperfect tenure. The extent of the Pale differed at different times, but in a general way may be said to have been a strip along the east side of the island, comprising the counties of Dublin, Meath, Carlow, Kilkenny, and Louth.

151. *When did the Black Prince die?*—He died in the lifetime of his father, 1376. Edward III. died next year, 1377.

152. *What children had Edward III.?*—He had seven sons—1. Edward, who predeceased him; 2. William of Hatfield, who died in infancy; 3. Lionel, Duke of Clarence; 4. John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster; 5. Edmund, Duke of York; 6. William of Windsor, who died young; and 7. Thomas of Woodstock. He had also five daughters.

153. *Who succeeded Edward III.?*—He was succeeded by his grandson, Richard II., son of Edward the Black Prince.

154. *Who was Wat Tyler?*—He was a man of humble degree, who headed a popular tumult, 1381, arising from the imposition of a poll-tax and other grievances, in the reign of Richard II. Tyler was stabbed by Walworth, lord-mayor of London, from which event the figure of a dagger is still borne in the armorial bearings of the city of London.

155. *Who was Wickliffe?*—John Wickliffe or Wycliffe was a learned English clergyman in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II., and became noted for preaching against the powers claimed by the pope, and for announcing certain reformed doctrines. He died in 1384, and has been styled the ‘Morning Star of the Reformation.’

156. *Who was Chaucer?*—Geoffrey Chaucer was the earliest English poet; born in London, 1328, and died 1400. In his time, the English language, composed chiefly of Anglo-Saxon and Norman-French, had settled into its present form, but was still uncouth in its orthography, and also some of its expressions. Chaucer’s celebrated work was *The Canterbury Tales*.

157. *What is the nature of the Canterbury Tales?*—They are tales chiefly in verse, purporting to be related for mutual amusement by a party of equestrian pilgrims who set out from the Tabard Inn, Southwark, to Canterbury. These tales are now little read on account of a number of the words being obsolete, or in an old orthography; but their merit places Chaucer in the first rank of English poets.



Chaucer.

158. *What language was employed by the early Scottish writers?*—Some wrote in Latin; others wrote in the Scottish vernacular of the period, which bore a resemblance to the English of Chaucer, and which, with some modifications, now constitutes what is called the Scottish dialect. John Barbour, archdeacon of Aberdeen in 1357, is reckoned the earliest Scottish poet. Some of his poems are lost; that which remains is *The Bruce*, a versified history of the transactions by which the family of Robert Bruce obtained the Scottish crown.—Died 1395.

159. *What was the battle of Chevy Chase?*—Such is the popular designation of an encounter at Otterburn, on the border, 1388, between Sir Henry Percy (Hotspur), son of the Earl of Northumberland, and the Earl of Douglas, and their respective followers. In this battle, Percy and his brother were made prisoners, and the Earl of Douglas was slain.

160. *What was the fate of Richard II.?*—He was deposed, 1399, and murdered, 1400. Dying without issue, Henry IV. seized the throne in prejudice of Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March—a usurpation which led to the Wars of the Roses.

161. *Explain more distinctly the nature of these wars.*—The contest was substantially this—whether Edmund Mortimer, great-grandson of Lionel, third son of Edward III., or Henry, son of John of Gaunt, fourth son, had the preferable claim to the throne. Clearly, the rightful heir was the descendant of Lionel; but, setting aside all claims in that quarter, Henry took possession of the throne, as Henry IV., 1399.

162. *Who was Harry Hotspur?*—He was a son of Percy, Earl of Northumberland, who, along with a valiant Welshman, Owen Glendower, raised a rebellion against Henry IV. Hotspur was married into the Mortimer family, and avowed, as the cause of his rebellion, the wish to place the Mortimers on the throne. He was defeated and slain at Shrewsbury, 1403.

163. *When did Henry IV. die?*—He died 1413, and was succeeded by his son, Henry V., in whose reign was fought the battle of Agincourt, in France, 1415. Henry V. died 1422, and was succeeded by his son, Henry VI.

164. *Who was Jack Cade?*—He was the leader of an insurrection which broke out in Kent, 1450, in the reign of Henry VI. With a large body of insurgents, Cade marched on London, which he attempted to plunder. Forced to retire, he was followed and killed, and his head was stuck upon London Bridge as a terror to traitors.

165. *When did the English lose their possessions in France?*—The English lost all their possessions in France, excepting Calais, in the reign of Henry VI., 1453.

166. *When did the Wars of the Roses break out?*—They broke out about 1454, when Richard, Duke of York, grandson of Edmund, Duke of York, claimed the throne, which was wrongfully occupied by Henry VI. The imbecility and unpopularity of Henry favoured the cause of Richard. The badge of the York family was a white, and that of the Lancaster a red rose.

167. *Did Richard make his claim as grandson of Edmund, Duke of York?*—No; he made his claim through his mother, Ann Mortimer, great-granddaughter of Lionel, Duke of Clarence. Ann's father was Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, who was the son of Philippa, daughter of Lionel.

168. *Was this claim, through three successive female heirs, valid?*—It was; according to the law of England, the descendants of female heirs to the throne rank equally with male heirs.

169. *Explain Richard's claim more minutely.*—Edmund, Duke of York, fifth son of Edward III., had two sons—the elder,



Edward, Duke of York, who was killed at Agincourt, 1415, and Richard, Earl of Cambridge, who was executed the same year. This Richard, Earl of Cambridge, had married his relation Ann Mortimer, on whose decease, Richard, her son, was the nearest heir to Edward III.; Richard accordingly took the field against the reigning House of Lancaster.

170. *What was the battle of Wakefield?*—It was a battle fought between the rival Houses of York and Lancaster, 1460, in which Richard, Duke of York was killed. Richard had four sons—Edward, Duke of York; Edmund, Earl of Rutland, murdered by Clifford the day his father was slain; George, Duke of Clarence; and Richard, who became Duke of Gloucester.

171. *What was the battle of Mortimer's Cross?*—It was a decisive battle fought between the forces of Henry of Lancaster, the reigning king, and those of Edward, Duke of York, 1461. Henry's forces were defeated, and Edward ascended the throne as Edward IV. Thus the House of York was at length triumphant.

172. *Did the Wars of the Roses close with the accession of Edward IV.?*—No; they were protracted till a later date, chiefly in consequence of the ambitious and criminal proceedings of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, brother of Edward IV.

173. *What became of Henry VI.?*—This poor deposed king was, it is supposed, murdered in the Tower by Richard, Duke of Gloucester, 1471.

174. *What became of George, Duke of Clarence?*—He was convicted of treason against his brother, Edward IV., and executed, 1478.

175. *When did Edward IV. die?*—He died 1483, leaving two sons, both children—Edward, and Richard, Duke of York. Edward succeeded his father as Edward V., but he was king only in name; for affairs were entirely conducted by his uncle, Richard, Duke of Gloucester.

176. *What was the fate of Edward V. and his brother?*—They were murdered in the Tower of London, 1483, by their uncle, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who ascended the throne as Richard III.

177. *Did Richard III. enjoy the throne peacefully?*—No; his crimes provoked the indignation of his subjects; a civil war ensued, and the House of Lancaster, represented by Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond, overcame the royal forces at the battle of Bosworth, 1485, when Richard III. was killed, and Richmond ascended the throne as Henry VII. So ended the dynasty of the Plantagenets.

178. *Did the Battle of Bosworth close the Wars of the Roses?*—Yes; these wars were now at an end, in the final triumph of the House of Lancaster over that of York.

179. *When did the Tudor dynasty begin?*—It began with Henry VII., the son of Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond, who was the son of Owen Tudor, a Welsh gentleman. The Tudors rose to distinction by Owen marrying Queen Catharine, widow of Henry V. Their son Edmund still further advanced the interests of the family by marrying a great-grand-daughter of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and it was through this lady, his mother, that Henry laid claim to the throne.

180. *Who was William Caxton?*—He was a citizen of London, who, from what he had seen in a foreign country, introduced the art of printing into England; he set up a press at Westminster about 1471.

181. *When was the Irish parliament instituted?*—The first regular parliament, consisting of persons representing the English in Ireland, was summoned in 1295 by Sir John Wogan, chief governor under Edward I.

182. *By whom were affairs in Ireland administered in the fifteenth century?*—The affairs of government were administered at this period by an officer styled the *Lord Deputy*, who was appointed by the English sovereign.

183. *What was 'Poyning's Law'?*—It was the celebrated statute of Drogheda, passed in 1495, during the administration of Lord Deputy Poyning.

184. *What was the aim of Poyning's Law?*—Its aim was to place the Irish parliament under the direct control of the English executive, so as to prevent the great Anglo-Irish families from uniting to resist the English government.

185. *What did Poyning's Law specially enact?*—It enacted that all statutes lately passed in England should be law in Ireland; and in interpretation of this, the whole English statute law, prior to the eighteenth year of Henry VII., was transplanted to Ireland.

186. *Who was Perkin Warbeck?*—He was a pretender who affected to be Richard, Duke of York, the younger brother of Edward V., and, as such, entitled to be rightful king in preference to Henry VII. After several attempts to stir up a rebellion, in one of which he was aided by James IV. of Scotland, Perkin was taken prisoner, and hanged at Tyburn, 1499.

187. *What was the character of Henry VII.?*—He was

avaricious ; but he ruled with much sagacity, and promoted a number of laws beneficial to the country.

188. *How were the Houses of York and Lancaster united ?*—By Henry VII. marrying Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Edward IV. Henry died in 1509, leaving one son, Henry, and two daughters, Margaret and Mary. The elder son, Arthur, had died in 1502.

189. *Who was Henry VIII. ?*—He was the surviving son and successor of Henry VII., and ascended the English throne in 1509. He was a learned and accomplished prince, but imperious and cruel.

190. *How many wives had Henry VIII., and what was their fate ?*—He married six wives in succession. His *first* wife was Catharine of Aragon, widow of his deceased brother Prince Arthur, whom he divorced ; his *second* was Anne Boleyn, whom he caused to be beheaded ; his *third* was Lady Jane Seymour, who died in giving birth to a prince ; his *fourth* was Anne of Cleves, whom he divorced ; his *fifth* was Catharine Howard, whom he caused to be beheaded ; and his *sixth* was Lady Catharine Parr, who had the good-fortune neither to be divorced nor beheaded by Henry, and survived him.



Henry VIII.

191. *What children had Henry VIII. ?*—He had three children—Mary, daughter of Catharine of Aragon ; Elizabeth, daughter of Anne Boleyn ; and Edward, son of Lady Jane Seymour.

192. *What title was conferred on Henry VIII. by the pope ?*—The title of ‘Defender of the Faith’ was conferred on him by Pope Leo X., 1521, as a reward for writing against Martin Luther.

193. *Who was Cardinal Wolsey ?*—He was an eminent ecclesiastic and able statesman, who for a time possessed the confidence of Henry VIII. ; but opposing the king’s marriage with Anne Boleyn, he was degraded from office, and accused of treason ; in distress of mind Wolsey died, 1530.

194. *What was the immediate cause of the Reformation in England ?*—It was a quarrel between Henry VIII. and the pope.

195. *Explain the cause of this momentous quarrel ?*—Henry having divorced his first wife, Catharine of Aragon, on the

ground of her being his brother's widow, and married Anne Boleyn, the pope declared this second marriage to be unlawful, and at length excommunicated Henry for contumacy; thereupon Henry threw off the papal power, and with the assent of parliament became supreme head of the Church of England, 1534.

196. *Who was Sir Thomas More?*—He was an eminent lawyer, appointed Lord Chancellor of England on the fall of Wolsey. As he could not be prevailed upon by Henry VIII. to declare that his marriage with Anne Boleyn had been lawful, or admit the king's supremacy, he was, by a flagrant act of injustice, arraigned, tried, and condemned at Westminster, and was beheaded, 1535.

197. *Mention a famed literary production of Sir Thomas More?*—His best known production is a curious philosophical work in Latin, under the title of *Utopia*, descriptive of an imaginary country, where everything is perfect. From this work comes the term 'Utopian,' now employed to signify that which is chimerical or impracticable.

198. *When were the monasteries abolished in England?*—The smaller ones were abolished in 1536, and the greater ones in 1538, shortly after Henry VIII. had assumed the supremacy of the church. In 1539, the English translation of the Bible began to be used in public worship.

199. *What have these events been designated?*—They are called the 'Reformation,' which marks an important era in English history.

200. *What was a leading feature of the Reformation in England?*—The organisation of the church was much the same as it had been previously, the main change being that of certain doctrines and usages, along with a repudiation of papal authority.

201. *When was the Reformation effected in Ireland?*—It was effected in 1535, when Henry VIII. caused the Irish parliament to pass an act establishing his supremacy. The people of Ireland, however, did not generally adopt the Reformation.

202. *When was Ireland raised to the rank of a kingdom?*—It was raised to that dignity by Henry VIII. in 1540, when he adopted the title of *King* in place of *Lord* of Ireland, and conferred peerages on various native chiefs, who did homage as feudal vassals to the English crown.

203. *What was the condition of England during the reign of Henry VIII.?*—There was much poverty, crime, and violence; more particularly after the dissolution of the religious houses

and the dispersion of their inmates. In the reign of Henry VIII., extending to 38 years, 73,000 criminals are said to have been executed in England.

204. *When did Henry VIII. die?*—He died in 1547, and was succeeded by his son, Edward VI.

205. *Who compiled the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England?*—It was compiled chiefly by Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Hugh Latimer, and other eminent ecclesiastics, in the reign of Edward VI.

206. *Who was the Protector Somerset?*—He was Duke of Somerset, who acted as supreme ruler on account of the youth of Edward VI. Somerset was brother of Catharine Seymour, and thus uncle of Edward.

207. *When did Edward VI. die?*—He died in 1553, and was succeeded by his elder half-sister, Mary, under whom the papal authority was restored, and Latimer, Ridley, and Cranmer were burned as heretics, the two former in 1555, and the latter in 1556. Mary died, 1558.

208. *Who was Queen Elizabeth?*—She was half-sister of Edward VI. and Mary, and ascended the throne in 1558. Elizabeth restored the Reformed Church of England, and became its most zealous protector; and under her the country made great advances in commerce, arts, and learning. Elizabeth was personally vain and capricious; but she was high-spirited, sagacious, and more patriotic than any princess of her age. She lived unmarried, and died 1603.



Queen Elizabeth.

209. *Who was Shakespeare?*—William Shakespeare, born at Stratford-on-Avon, 1564, in the reign of Elizabeth, was the greatest of the English poets and dramatists—his works shewing the most extraordinary versatility of fancy, felicity of expression, and knowledge of human feelings. He died 1616, and it was only after his decease that the grandeur of his genius became apparent. The first edition of his works was published in 1623.

210. *Who was Lord Burleigh?*—William Cecil Lord Burleigh was minister of Queen Elizabeth, and the greatest statesman of his age. To him the glory of Elizabeth's reign was in a great measure due.

211. *What maritime enterprises took place in the reign of Elizabeth?*—Under Drake, Cavendish, Raleigh, and Frobisher, various expeditions were conducted and discoveries made. Now were commenced the English colonies in North America; one of these being called *Virginia*, in compliment to the queen.

212. *When was Tobacco first brought to England?*—It was first brought by Sir John Hawkins in 1565, but for some years it was exported, and not used in the country; it was first introduced to use in England by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1586.

213. *What was the Spanish Armada?*—It was a fleet of war-vessels sent by Spain, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to conquer England, and bring it back to the Roman Catholic faith. Partly by the gallantry of the English fleets, and partly by tempests, the Armada was destroyed and scattered, 1588.

214. *When was the first Poor-law enacted in England?*—In 1535, in the reign of Henry VIII.; but the law was greatly amended in 1601, in the reign of Elizabeth; and this latter new enactment of 1601 is usually spoken of as the origin of the English poor-laws.

215. *Did Elizabeth concern herself about affairs in Scotland?*—Yes; she took a deep interest in the affairs of Scotland, from the circumstance that the sovereign of that country was the nearest heir to the English crown; Elizabeth having been declared illegitimate by the pope, she entertained a jealousy of the claims of her relative Mary Queen of Scots.

216. *How did the relationship of the English and Scottish royal families commence?*—It began by James IV. marrying Margaret Tudor, daughter of Henry VII. This important marriage took place at Holyrood, 1503, at which time Margaret was only fourteen years of age. James V. was a child of this union, born in 1512.

217. *Did this alliance of the English and Scottish royal families secure peace between the two countries?*—No; James IV., a chivalrous but rash king, quarrelled with his brother-in-law, Henry VIII., and declaring war against him, marched with a great army to England, and fought the battle of Flodden.

218. *When was the battle of Flodden fought?*—It was fought on the 9th of September 1513, when the English were victorious, James IV. was killed, and a vast number of his Scottish army were also slain. This disastrous event is the subject of various mournful Scottish ballads.

219. *How was the government of Scotland conducted during the minority of James V.?*—It was conducted by various Regents,

who were unable to prevent disorders, and the country was for years in a very disturbed state.

220. *Whom did Margaret Tudor, widow of James IV., marry?*—She married, for second husband, Archibald Douglas, sixth Earl of Angus, by whom she had an only daughter, Margaret Douglas, who married Matthew Stuart, fourth Earl of Lennox; which Earl of Lennox had two sons, Henry Stuart Lord Darnley, and Charles Stuart, who became fifth Earl of Lennox, and was father of Lady Arabella Stuart.

221. *Who was Mary Queen of Scots?*—She was daughter of James V., and was born in 1542, only seven days before the death of her father.

222. *What was the project of the Protector Somerset respecting Mary Queen of Scots?*—It was to marry her to Edward VI., and thereby effect a union of the English and Scottish crowns. This marriage had been a favourite project of Henry VIII.

223. *Did the Scots fall in with this project?*—No; they rejected the alliance chiefly on the ground that the English had ceased to be a Roman Catholic nation; whereupon, Somerset invaded Scotland with an army to compel the proposed union; the result was the battle of Pinkie.

224. *When was the battle of Pinkie fought?*—It was fought in 1547, when the Scots were defeated; they, however, saved their young queen by sending her to France to be educated.

225. *What was the connection between Scotland and France?*—It was an old connection, arising partly from intermarriages between the royal families; but was chiefly maintained as a political alliance, offensive and defensive, against England.

226. *How was the Reformation effected in Scotland?*—It was effected by a sudden public outbreak, for which various causes conspired—certain scandalous abuses in the church, the preaching of John Knox and others, the satirical effusions of Sir David Lindsay, and the rapacious desire of the nobility or 'Lords of the Congregation' to possess themselves of the church lands and endowments.

227. *Who was John Knox?*—He was a Scotsman, who was educated as a Roman Catholic priest; but having embraced the Reformed doctrines, he became their able and intrepid expounder among his countrymen. He closed life as one of the ministers of Edinburgh, 1572.

228. *Who was Cardinal Beaton?*—He was Primate of Scotland at the outbreak of the Reformation; under his authority many persons were imprisoned and executed for propagating the Reformed doctrines—the most eminent of these sufferers

being George Wishart, who was burned at St Andrews. Beaton was assassinated, 1546.

229. *When was the Reformation in Scotland effected?*—It was effected in 1560, when the ancient ecclesiastical organisation was abolished by an act of the Scots parliament. About the same time, irregular mobs destroyed the monasteries and abbeys; and deprived of means of support, by the seizure of the church-lands by the nobles, the reformed church struggled at first under great difficulties.

230. *Whom did Mary Queen of Scots marry?*—She married, first, Francis II. of France, and after his decease, on her return to Scotland, she married her cousin, Henry Stuart Lord Darnley.

231. *Who was David Rizzio?*—He was an accomplished foreigner, a favourite at the court of Mary Queen of Scots, and was murdered in her presence by a band of conspirators at Holyrood, 1566, a few months before the birth of her son.

232. *When was Mary's son born?*—Her son, James Stuart, was born in the Castle of Edinburgh, June 19, 1566.

233. *What was the fate of Darnley?*—He was murdered, and the house in which he was, was blown up by gunpowder, 1567.

234. *Who was the third husband of Mary Queen of Scots?*—James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, a worthless personage, who was believed to have been concerned in the murder of Darnley. This scandalous marriage produced a quarrel between the queen and her subjects.

235. *What was the fate of Mary Queen of Scots?*—Fleeing from her subjects, she sought refuge with her relative, Queen Elizabeth, who, after imprisoning her for a number of years, caused her to be beheaded on a charge of a treasonous conspiracy, 1587. This cruel act remains a grievous blot on the memory of Elizabeth.

236. *Who succeeded Mary as sovereign in Scotland?*—Her son, who, while still a youth, ascended the throne as James VI.

237. *Who was the Regent Murray?*—He was James Stuart, Earl of Murray, natural brother of Mary, who acted for a time as Regent during the minority of James VI. Murray was an able statesman, and took considerable part in promoting the Reformation in Scotland. He was assassinated in 1570.

238. *What was the condition of Scotland during the early part of James's reign?*—It was a condition of constant disturbances; there were numerous fights and slaughters, the king being incapable of maintaining the authority of the law.



239. *Whom did James VI. marry?*—He married the princess Anne of Denmark, by whom he had two sons, Henry and Charles, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia; the two latter died young.

240. *When was New-year's Day changed in Scotland?*—By an act of parliament, it was changed from the 25th of March to the 1st of January; this change took place on the 1st of January 1600. For long afterwards, the 25th of March continued to be New-year's Day in England.

241. *When did James VI. ascend the English throne?*—On the death of Elizabeth, the last of the Tudors, in 1603, when he assumed the title of James I. of England, and left Scotland with his family to reside at Westminster. Thus the Stuart dynasty was begun in England.

242. *What has the accession of James VI. to the English throne been usually called?*—It is known in history as the UNION OF THE CROWNS.

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### From 1603 until 1714.

243. *When was the term 'Great Britain' introduced?*—It was introduced in 1604, when James I. was styled 'King of Great Britain.'

244. *How was Scotland governed after the Union of the Crowns?*—It was governed by certain state-officers appointed by James I., along with the Scots parliament.

245. *What was the nature of the Scots Parliament?*—It comprehended lords and commons (also ecclesiastical dignitaries before the Reformation, and during Episcopacy in Scotland), who all sat and deliberated together; its place of meeting was latterly a hall in Edinburgh, called the Parliament House.

246. *What was the 'Gunpowder Plot'?*—It was a conspiracy to blow up the king and the Houses of Parliament at Westminster by gunpowder, November 5, 1605. Guy Fawkes and other conspirators were seized, condemned, and executed.

247. *Who were the Puritans?*—They were a religious party who came into notice in the reign of Elizabeth; rejecting ecclesiastical traditions and the Book of Common Prayer, they professed to be guided by the Scriptures alone, and to maintain great purity in life and doctrine—hence the name which was attached to them. The party rose to importance in the reign of James I.

248. *Did the principles of the Puritans extend to Scotland?*—

Similar principles affected Scotland ; and took a much more permanent hold there than in England.

249. *What was the character of James I.?*—It was that of a weak and vain man ; above all, he possessed an inordinate idea of his royal prerogative or rights as a sovereign.

250. *What were James's notions of church-polity?*—He held firmly to the Episcopal system of the Reformed Church of England, and endeavoured to introduce a similar organisation into Scotland—an attempt which proved the forerunner of many troubles.

251. *When was the Authorised Version of the Bible effected?*—It was executed by a body of learned English divines, by order of James I., between 1607 and 1610.

252. *Whom did the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I., marry?*—Frederick, elector of the Palatinate, a small principality on the Rhine, of which Heidelberg was the capital. This marriage took place in 1613, shortly after the death of Henry, the eldest son of James I.

253. *What was Elizabeth's history?*—Her husband was elected king of Bohemia in 1619, but by a reverse of fortune he was driven from that country, and also lost the Palatinate ; Elizabeth, who was now styled 'Queen of Bohemia,' was reduced with her family to great indigence.

254. *What children had Elizabeth?*—She had a numerous family ; her eldest son, Charles-Louis, lived to recover the Palatinate ; and another son, Rupert, distinguished himself as a soldier, particularly in the civil war on the side of Charles I. Her youngest daughter, Sophia, married Ernest-Augustus, Elector of Hanover.

255. *Who was Lady Arabella Stuart?*—She was a daughter of the Earl of Lennox, brother of Darnley, and, as descended from Margaret Tudor, had a claim to the throne in default of James I. and his family.

256. *How did James treat Arabella Stuart?*—Entertaining a mean jealousy of her natural rights, he subjected her to a series of unworthy persecutions. Because she chose to marry contrary to his wish, he confined her in the Tower, where she became mad, and died 1615.

257. *Did the English kings at this time venture to oppress subjects?*—They assumed the right to commit many arbitrary acts, in virtue of their prerogative, contrary to the principles of Magna Charta.

258. *What was the fate of Sir Walter Raleigh?*—He was arraigned on a charge of treason, 1603, and beheaded in 1618.

259. *Who was Lord Bacon?*—He was an eminent statesman and philosophical writer in the reign of James I.; but was found to be guilty of official corruption, and condemned to pay a fine of £40,000, which the king afterwards remitted.

260. *What was the 'Plantation of Ulster?'*—It was a scheme of James I. for taking possession of the lands of the Earls of Tyrone and Tyrconnel, in Ulster, in the north of Ireland—these lords having been defeated in a general rebellion, 1603. The 'Plantation' consisted in parcelling out the lands among English and Scottish settlers; which project was carried out with military violence, 1608, and Ulster, with Belfast as its capital, has ever since been noted for its Protestant community.

261. *When were Baronets first created?*—Baronets were first created by James I. in 1611, the distinction being offered as an inducement to render pecuniary aid in the Plantation of Ulster; but practically, the distinction was purchased by persons in the rank of gentlemen for £1000. There was subsequently, 1625, a creation of Nova Scotia Baronets, on more moderate terms. In later times, baronetcies have been granted only for important public services.

262. *When did James I. die?*—He died in 1625, and was succeeded by his surviving son, Charles I., who, though possessing many excellent qualities, unfortunately entertained still higher notions of the royal prerogative than his father, which soon led to a collision between him and his English and Scottish subjects.

263. *Who was Buckingham?*—George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, was an unworthy favourite and parasite of James I., whom he in various ways deceived. Buckingham was assassinated by Felton, a retired subaltern officer, 1628.

264. *How did Charles I. come into collision with parliament?*—Charles having given deep offence by his arbitrary and illegal measures, parliament refused to vote supplies (money to carry on public affairs), whereupon the king proceeded to levy taxes at his own will.

265. *What was Ship-money?*—It was a tax arbitrarily imposed to support the navy by Charles I. in 1634. With some similar measures, it caused great public resentment, and placed the king in still greater antagonism to parliament.

266. *Who were the Fifth Monarchy Men?*—They were a body of religious enthusiasts in England, who came prominently into notice in the reign of Charles I. Reckoning that there had been four great monarchies in the world—the Assyrian,

Persian, Græco-Macedonian, and Roman—they believed that there was to be a Fifth monarchy, in which Christ was to be king. This monarchy, which was to last a millennium, or a thousand years, was thought to be at hand in 1645.

267. *Who were the Independents?*—They were a numerous religious body in England, who came into existence in the reign of Elizabeth, and afterwards played a prominent part in the great Civil War. They derived their name from the principle which they advocated, that each congregation should regulate its own affairs, and be independent alike of bishops or presbyteries.

268. *Who were the Presbyterians?*—They were a religious body, comprising nearly the whole Scottish nation and a section of the English, who held that all ministers or 'preaching' elders should be of equal rank, and that the church ought to be governed by these, assisted by a certain number of lay-elders.

269. *What were Nonconformists?*—They were Puritans of various sects—Independents, Presbyterians, and others—who would not conform to the Church of England, and were subjected to the operation of severe laws against Nonconformity, in the reigns of James I., Charles I., Charles II., and James II.

270. *Who were the 'Pilgrim Fathers?'*—They were a body of English Nonconformists who had fled from persecution, in the reign of James I., to Holland, and there, after some years, resolved to emigrate to an English settlement in North America.

271. *State some facts concerning their emigration.*—They came from Holland to England, and with some difficulty embarked in a small vessel called the *Mayflower*, which reached Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Having explored the neighbouring shores, the party, 102 in number, landed at a place afterwards named New Plymouth, December 11, 1620, and there they began their settlement.

272. *What measures did Charles I. pursue respecting the church in Scotland?*—Contrary to the feelings of the people, who preferred Presbyterianism, he forced bishops on the church, and also a Liturgy or Service-book—his reason for doing so being the fancy that Episcopacy alone was compatible with a monarchical system of government.

273. *How were these measures received?*—The people broke out into a tumult in one of the churches of Edinburgh, on Sunday, July 23, 1637, and the Service-book was withdrawn.

274. *What was the National Covenant?*—It was a publicly-subscribed declaration, in which the Scots engaged to stand by each other, in opposition to the projects of Charles I. The date of this event was 1638, and the immediate result was the abolition of Episcopacy, and the re-establishment of Presbyterianism in Scotland.

275. *Who were the Covenanters?*—This term was applied first to those who subscribed the National Covenant; but it was applied afterwards to those who signed the Solemn League and Covenant, drawn up at Edinburgh, and afterwards agreed to by the English parliament. It was subscribed by Charles II. when he came to Scotland on the death of his father.

276. *Who were the Cavaliers?*—The term Cavalier party was applied to those who adhered to the royal cause and usages of the Church of England, in opposition to the 'Roundheads,' consisting of Independents and others who adhered to the parliament.

277. *Who was Strafford?*—Sir Thomas Wentworth, created Earl of Strafford, was an able but haughty and imperious statesman, who, as minister to Charles I., counselled those strong and illegal measures which led to the king's ruin. Parliament having gained the ascendancy, passed a bill of attainder against Strafford, who was beheaded, 1641.

278. *What was the Star-Chamber?*—It was a court instituted by Henry VII., consisting of a committee of the king's privy-council, held in an apartment at Westminster. It is ordinarily said that the name was taken from stars in the roof of the chamber; but the correctness of this supposition is doubtful.

279. *How did the Court of Star-Chamber act?*—Holding itself to be unfettered by rules of law, and responding to the extreme principles of the royal prerogative, it acted in a most arbitrary and oppressive manner—inflicting fines, imprisonment, whipping, mutilation, and any other punishment short of death. Having been employed by James I. and Charles I. to stem the progress of civil and religious liberty, the Star-Chamber was abolished as an intolerable grievance in 1641.

280. *What was the Court of High Commission?*—It was an ecclesiastical court instituted by Queen Elizabeth, which was composed of forty-four commissioners, twelve of whom were clergymen; its jurisdiction extended over all England, and took cognizance of and regulated all religious opinions, and latterly by torture, fines, and imprisonment, endeavoured to force uniformity to the Established Church; it was abolished in 1641.

281. *When did the great Civil War break out?*—It broke out in 1642; the opposing forces being the royal or cavalier troops under Charles I. and his nephew, Prince Rupert, and the parliamentary army, chiefly Independents and Presbyterians, commanded at first by the Earl of Essex.

282. *Who was Oliver Cromwell?*—He was an English gentleman of small fortune, who, by his sagacity and his abilities as a military disciplinarian, rose to be commander of the parliamentary forces, to whose affection he recommended himself by his religious zeal as an Independent.

283. *Who was John Hampden?*—He was a patriotic English gentleman, who had been subjected to persecution for not paying ship-money. On the outbreak of hostilities, he took the side of the parliament, but he was wounded in an encounter with the royal troops, and died six days afterwards, 1643. To Hampden has been assigned the highest rank among English patriots.

284. *What was the Assembly of Divines at Westminster?*—It was a meeting held under the authority of parliament in 1643, at which delegates from England and Scotland adopted the 'Solemn League and Covenant,' fixed on the establishment of Presbyterian church-government in the three kingdoms, and drew up a general Confession of Faith, a 'Directory of Public Worship,' also the well-known 'Larger' and 'Shorter Catechism.' According to the Solemn League and Covenant, Episcopacy was to be extirpated, and for a time, accordingly, it was not even tolerated in subordination to the Presbyterian system.

285. *Who was Laud?*—William Laud was an ecclesiastic who rose to be Archbishop of Canterbury in the reign of Charles I., in which position he aided the king in his attempt to force Episcopacy on Scotland. Laud's arbitrary, illegal, and cruel acts led to a bill of attainder being passed by parliament, declaring him guilty of high treason, and he was beheaded, January 1644-5.

286. *Who was the Marquis of Montrose?*—James Graham, Marquis of Montrose, was an eminent Scottish general who adopted the royal cause and gained several victories over the Covenanters. At length he was defeated at Philiphaugh, 1645, and was ultimately captured and executed at Edinburgh in 1650.

287. *What were the chief battles in England during the Civil War?*—The battle of Edgehill in 1642, which was indecisive; the battle of Marston Moor in 1644, gained by the

parliamentary forces ; and the battle of Naseby in 1645, also gained by the parliamentary forces, by which the royal cause was irretrievably lost.

288. *What was the fate of Charles I.?*—He sought the protection of a Scots army, who gave him up to the English ; at the same time, the English paid to the Scots a large sum of money (£400,000) claimed as arrears. The unfortunate king was some time in confinement at Carisbrook Castle, Isle of Wight ; at last he was tried and condemned for levying war against the people, and was beheaded at Whitehall, January 30, 1648-9.

289. *Who were the surviving children of Charles I.?*—Charles, Prince of Wales ; James, Duke of York ; Henry, who died unmarried ; Mary, who married William II., Prince of Orange, and whose son became William III. of England ; Elizabeth, who died of grief in prison ; and Henrietta-Maria, who married Philip, Duke of Orleans.

290. *What was the Commonwealth?*—It was a government established on the execution of Charles I. and the abolition of monarchy, early in 1649. It was administered by a council of state, which was appointed by a residue of the House of Commons. Nominally a republic, the government was a military despotism, with Cromwell at the head of the army.

291. *Did the Scots accept the Commonwealth?*—No ; they set up Charles Prince of Wales as Charles II., and took the field in the cause of monarchy, but were completely defeated by Cromwell at Dunbar, September 3, 1650. Exactly a year afterwards, Charles II., with a Scotch army, was defeated at Worcester, and for safety retired to the continent.

292. *Did the Irish accept the Commonwealth?*—No ; but they were forced to submit to it by Cromwell, who in 1649 landed in Ireland with a large army, and by his severities struck terror into the nation. Many of the fine old castles of Ireland were at this time laid in ruin.

293. *What was the Long Parliament?*—It was the parliament which began its sittings in 1640, and carried on the contest against Charles I. It continued to exist twelve years (the Lords being intermediately expelled), and would have continued longer, but Cromwell, with a body of soldiers, abruptly turned out all the members, locked the door, and put the key in his pocket, 20th April 1653.

294. *What was the 'Barebones' Parliament?'*—It was a parliament called together by Cromwell, after the dissolution of the Long Parliament, and composed partly of individuals

remarkable for ignorance and fanaticism ; gaining no public respect, it was soon dissolved. It was sarcastically denominated the *Barebones' Parliament* from the surname of one of the members, a leather-seller, who was named Praise-God Barbone. After the dissolution of this parliament, Cromwell was appointed by a council of state LORD PROTECTOR, 1653.

295. *Who were Van Tromp, De Ruyter, and De Witt?*—They were Dutch naval commanders, who, in 1652, in a war between Holland and Great Britain, committed great havoc on English shipping, and even made London tremble for its safety. At length, some successes by Admiral Blake caused the Dutch to sue for peace.

296. *When was Jamaica acquired by Britain?*—It was captured by a British fleet under Admiral Penn, from the Spaniards during the Protectorate of Cromwell, 1655, and was formally ceded ten years later.

297. *How long did Cromwell occupy the position of Protector?*—About five years, until his death in 1658, during which time he with a strong hand maintained the honour of England, extended commerce, and preserved internal peace.

298. *Who succeeded Oliver Cromwell?*—His son Richard ; but he remained in power only a short period, and gladly retired into private life.

299. *How was the government conducted after Richard Cromwell retired?*—It was imperfectly carried on by a wretched remnant of parliament ; and the people found that all their efforts in the cause of liberty had ended in a government of unscrupulous adventurers, whose only ruling principle was violence.



Oliver Cromwell.

300. *What was the 'Restoration'?*—It was the restoring of the monarchy, which was effected by the army under General Monk ; in the midst of universal rejoicing, Charles II. was proclaimed king at Westminster, May 8, 1660. On the 29th of May, Charles entered London—a notable event in British history.

301. *In restoring monarchy, did the nation exact any security for their liberties from Charles II.?*—No ; this they neglected to do, in their thankfulness to get back a settled and respectable form of government.



302. *When did Elizabeth Stuart, ex-Queen of Bohemia, die?*—She died October 13, 1662, in the hospitable mansion of Lord Craven, London, where she had lived for about a year on returning from the continent. The house in which she died had formerly belonged to Sir Robert Drury, and from it originated the name 'Drury Lane.'

303. *When was the Great Plague of London?*—In 1665, when large numbers—some say as many as 100,000—died.

304. *When was the Great Fire of London?*—September 2, 1666, when a large part of the city was destroyed, including St Paul's. The present St Paul's Cathedral was afterwards built by Sir Christopher Wren.

305. *Was the Church of England reinstated at the Restoration?*—Yes; the religious enthusiasm which broke out in a variety of sects was exhausted in England, and the transactions of the Assembly of Divines at Westminster, which had met in 1643, were repudiated.

306. *What was the state of affairs in Scotland after the Restoration?*—The people anticipated the full restoration of Presbyterianism; but Charles II. caused an Episcopacy (without the liturgy) to be established in 1662; certain tests or oaths were also imposed; whereupon there was a renewal of Covenants, and sundry insurrections.

307. *What was the era of the Persecution in Scotland?*—It extended from 1664 till about 1687, having exceeded the life of Charles II. During this period great cruelties were perpetrated.

308. *Who was Titus Oates?*—He was a person of infamous character, who, taking advantage of public credulity, began in 1678 to give information concerning a pretended Popish plot to murder the king and destroy the Protestant religion; through his false accusations many innocent persons were imprisoned, and several executed. The treachery of Oates was afterwards discovered, and as a punishment, he was fined, whipped, and set in the pillory.



Titus Oates.

309. *What was the 'Habeas Corpus Act'?*—It was an act of the English parliament passed in 1679, limiting the time between the apprehension of a supposed

criminal and his trial; in virtue of which act alleged criminals can apply by writ of *Habeas Corpus* to a competent court to have it determined whether their committal be just. The term *Habeas Corpus* signifies have the body (or person) of.

310. *Was not the principle of the Habeas Corpus Act embodied in Magna Charta?*—It was; the act of 1679, in the reign of Charles II., only rectified the procedure under the old law.

311. *Does the Habeas Corpus Act extend to Scotland?*—It does in principle, under a different name. Over the whole British dominions, the great principle of the *Habeas Corpus Act* extends, and forms a shield against lengthened imprisonment before trial.

312. *Who was the Duke of Monmouth?*—He was an illegitimate son of Charles II., who was employed as a general of the royal forces in Scotland to suppress the Covenanters, and commanded at the battle of Bothwell Bridge, 1679, when the insurgents were routed.

313. *Who were the Cameronians?*—They were a party of the more rigid Scottish Covenanters, and took their name from Richard Cameron, one of their ministers, who was killed in a skirmish in 1680.

314. *Who was George Fox?*—He was a person in humble life in England, who became affected with religious enthusiasm during the civil wars, and originated the sect known as 'Quakers,' or as they designate themselves, 'Friends.'

315. *Were the Quakers persecuted?*—Yes; they suffered much persecution, and many were ignominiously transported to Massachusetts, where they were treated with unjustifiable severity by the Pilgrim Fathers and other settlers.

316. *Having fled from persecution, did the Pilgrim Fathers themselves persecute?*—Yes; in their settlement they insisted on conformity with their own forms of worship; in which respect they exercised precisely the same species of oppression as that from which they had fled. They also condemned many persons for witchcraft, and burned them at the stake.

317. *What was Witchcraft?*—It was alleged to be a power of committing various acts of a malignant nature through diabolical assistance; those supposed to be invested with this supernatural power were styled witches.

318. *Was witchcraft an ancient superstition?*—Yes; but a belief in it rose to be a kind of frenzy in Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and spread to the English colonies in America. In Great Britain, the belief

in witchcraft was at its height from the reign of James I. to the reign of Charles II.; and for this imaginary crime many thousands of unfortunate individuals were executed, chiefly by being burned at the stake.

319. *Who were 'Witch-finders'?*—Such was the name given to a set of wretches in England, headed by one Matthew Hopkins, who, at the middle of the seventeenth century, moved from place to place to search for witches, and forced them to confess by various kinds of arbitrary tortures. In Scotland, the principal witch-prosecutors were the parish ministers and kirk-sessions, of whose proceedings in this respect history offers some extraordinary accounts.

320. *What was Judicial Torture?*—It was severe bodily pain inflicted by a court of justice in order to compel accused persons to confess a knowledge of the crimes charged against them. Judicial torture was practised in England until 1558, but in one case at least—that to extort a confession against Mary Queen of Scots—it was used as late as 1587. It continued until 1690 in Scotland, where squeezing the thumbs in a small vice, and crushing the legs in a case by means of wedges, were the more common kinds of infliction.

321. *Who was Roger Williams?*—He was a young Welsh clergyman belonging to the Church of England, who, having emigrated to Massachusetts in 1631, was persecuted and banished by the Pilgrim Fathers for nonconformity. He afterwards founded the settlement called 'Rhode Island' and the city of Providence, where all forms of religious worship were freely allowed.

322. *What honour has English history assigned to Roger Williams?*—The distinguished honour of being the first person in authority who proclaimed and reduced to practice the principle of perfect religious equality and toleration. Williams, who was a truly noble character, died at Providence, 1683.

323. *Who was William Penn?*—He was son of Admiral Sir William Penn, a gentleman of property in Wiltshire, and embraced the tenets of the Quakers, which he fervently preached in the reign of Charles II. From this monarch he procured a patent in 1681, to found a settlement in North America, where the Society of Friends might live unmolested.

324. *What was Penn's settlement called?*—It was called *Pennsylvania*, and in it Penn founded the city of Philadelphia (signifying *Brotherly love*) as its capital, 1682. The settlement, like that of Roger Williams, was organised on

principles of perfect toleration, and is noted for the honest manner in which the founder purchased lands from the natives, instead of, as was customary, taking them by force. William Penn, who died in 1718, is one of the most estimable characters in English biography.

325. *What was the Rye-House Plot?*—It was said to be a conspiracy to murder Charles II. and his brother, the Duke of York, and place the Duke of Monmouth on the throne, 1683. It took its name from the alleged place of meeting, the Rye-House, in Hertfordshire.

326. *Who was Lord William Russell?*—He was a son of the Earl of Bedford, who, professing opinions opposed to the arbitrary measures of the government, was charged with complicity in the Rye-House Plot; he was tried and condemned, and beheaded in Lincoln's Inn Fields, July 21, 1683.

327. *Who was Algernon Sidney?*—A distinguished patriot, who, being charged with complicity in the Rye-House Plot, was tried and condemned, and was beheaded on Tower Hill, November 21, 1683.

328. *When did Charles II. die?*—He died February 6, 1685, and was succeeded by his brother James, Duke of York, as James II. of England and James VII. of Scotland, in whose reign things came to a fresh crisis, for adversity had not taught the Stuarts moderation.

329. *What was the chief fault found with James II.?*—It was that he seemed resolved to restore the papal power in England, and re-establish Roman Catholicism by an exercise of absolute authority.

330. *What was 'Passive Obedience?'*—By 'passive obedience' was meant an entire submission to the will of the king, without regard to any existing laws. The university of Oxford having promulgated an elaborate declaration of passive obedience to rulers, James II. was encouraged to pursue his unhappy career.

331. *What was the fate of the Duke of Monmouth?*—He raised a rebellion against James II., in order, as he said, to secure the Protestant religion, and to deliver the country from the tyranny of James II. In this attempt he was defeated and taken prisoner at Sedgemoor, and beheaded July 15, 1685.

332. *What family had James II.?*—He was twice married; by his first marriage he had two daughters, Mary and Anne; and by his second marriage a son, James, born June 10, 1688, besides a daughter, Louisa-Maria, who died 1712.

333. *Who was the Prince of Orange?*—William III., Prince of

Orange, Stadtholder or head of the States in Holland, was a son of Mary Stuart, daughter of Charles I., and had married his cousin, Mary, daughter of James II. As a resolute statesman and Protestant, he was invited to come to England and conduct the government.

334. *When did James II. quit England?*—Fearing the fate of his father, he left England with his wife and infant son for France, December 23, 1688.

335. *When did William Prince of Orange land in England?*—He landed at Torbay, November 5, 1688, and arrived at St James's on the same day that his father-in-law quitted Whitehall.

336. *What parliamentary proceedings took place on this occasion?*—The English parliament declared the throne vacant, and the Scots Convention of Estates resolved that James II. had forfeited the crown. In England and Scotland William and Mary were proclaimed joint-sovereigns, 1689.

337. *What was the 'Revolution of 1688'?*—Such was the name given to the irregular change of dynasty in 1688, rendered unavoidable by the conduct of James II., the last reigning male of the House of Stuart.

338. *What ensued in Scotland at the Revolution?*—The Convention of Estates was transformed into a Parliament; the Episcopacy of Charles II. was dis-established; and the Presbyterian form of church-government which now exists was established, 1690.

339. *Who was Viscount Dundee?*—John Graham of Claverhouse, created Viscount Dundee by James II., as a military commander had been actively engaged in the dismal war carried on against the more intractable Covenanters; after the Revolution, he adhered to the fallen cause of the Stuarts.

340. *What was the battle of Killiecrankie?*—It was a battle fought by the troops of William and Mary against the forces which were held together in Scotland by Viscount Dundee in name of James II.; in the encounter, which took place July 27, 1689, Dundee fell by the shot of a bullet in the moment of victory; and shortly afterwards, there was a general submission in Scotland to the Revolution Settlement.

341. *What ensued in Ireland at the Revolution?*—The Irish parliament, and many who were Roman Catholics, adhered to James II.; while the Protestant party fled to Londonderry and other fortified towns, where they made a desperate resistance, until succoured by King William.

342. *What was the siege of Londonderry?*—It was a siege

endured by the Irish Protestants in the fortified city of Londonderry against the forces of King James, 1689; this famous siege lasted 105 days, in which, from 8000 to 9000 people perished by famine, disease, or the shot of the enemy. Succour having arrived, July 30, the siege was raised, and the heroic garrison saved.

343. *Did King James personally aid his friends in Ireland?*—Yes; he arrived from France with a small army, in order to sustain his cause, in which, however, he was unsuccessful.

344. *What was the battle of the Boyne?*—It was a battle fought on the banks of the river Boyne, near Drogheda, between the forces of James and William, July 1, 1690. William gained a complete victory. Shortly afterwards, James retired to France; his cause was utterly lost at Aghrim, July 12, 1691.

345. *Who was Schomberg?*—The Duke of Schomberg was a foreign general, an attached friend of William, whom he accompanied to the battle of the Boyne; in leading his troops across the river, he was killed by a shot; and the death of this old and valued soldier was felt by William almost to outweigh his victory.

346. *What was the last part of the British Islands that held out for King James?*—It was the Bass, a small rocky island at the mouth of the Firth of Forth, which, in the hands of a few youthful adventurers, held out for King James till April 1694, and then only through famine, surrendered on honourable terms.

347. *What was the Declaration of Rights?*—It was a document prepared by the English parliament, 1689, and ratified by William and Mary, and forms an important contract between sovereign and people. It confirms the principle that kings rule only according to law, through their ministers and a free parliament. It settled the throne on the Prince and Princess of Orange, confirmed the people in the right of petition, freedom of election, and freedom of speech in parliament. A similar compact was entered into with the Scots parliament. These, along with some other measures, constitute what is usually styled the 'Revolution Settlement.'

348. *What was the Mutiny Act?*—It was an act passed in 1689, to give perfect security to the nation against military despotism.

349. *Explain the provisions of the Mutiny Act.*—According to this law, the sovereign cannot raise or maintain an army without the consent of parliament; officers and common soldiers are not to be exempt from processes of law; and the

Bill requires renewal every year—if not renewed by parliament, the whole army would be dissolved.

350. *Who were the Jacobites?*—They were adherents of the exiled monarch, James II., from the Latinised form of whose name (Jacobus) they received their designation.

351. *Who were the Whigs?*—The term Whig originated in Scotland, where it was reproachfully applied, in the Civil War, to the more stern and zealous of the Presbyterians; at length it was extended to all who adhered to the principles of the Revolution Settlement.

352. *Who were the Tories?*—The appellation Tory is said to have originated in Ireland. It was afterwards applied reproachfully to the members of the party in parliament during the reign of Charles II., who adhered to the measures of the court.

353. *What was the Massacre of Glencoe?*—It was the slaughter by military execution of thirty-eight individuals of the clan Macdonald in Glencoe, Argyleshire, on the 13th February 1692; the slaughter having taken place by a warrant signed by King William, proceeding on the ground that Macdonald of Glencoe, head of the clan, had not taken the oath of allegiance by the prescribed day, December 31, 1691.

354. *What has been said of the Massacre of Glencoe?*—That it was a most atrocious and unjustifiable act, and as such, greatly damages the character of William; the king, however, acted by the advice of his Scottish ministers of state, particularly Sir John Dalrymple, Secretary of State for Scotland, who afterwards became Earl of Stair—and on him rests the chief disgrace of this transaction.

355. *What was the Darien Expedition?*—It was an attempt on the part of the Scots to found a colony for commercial purposes on the Isthmus of Darien, for which, by a great national effort, the sum of £400,000 was subscribed, 1696. Through the jealousy of the Dutch, English, and Spaniards, and also some imperfect management, the scheme proved abortive, and led to much discontent.

356. *When did Mary, consort of King William, die?*—She died in 1694, after which event the king reigned alone as William III. until 1702, when he died.

357. *When did the National Debt commence?*—It commenced in the reign of William III., partly as a consequence of his foreign wars. Regular banks, including the Bank of England and Bank of Scotland, were also established in his reign.

358. *What was the character of the seventeenth century?*—

The seventeenth century was marked by turbulence and civil wars in England, Scotland, and Ireland; which disorders arose from the contest of two principles—the principle of civil liberty and the principle of absolute authority. The struggle between these two principles was provoked by the Stuarts, and ended in their ruin.

359. *Did parliament under King William give perfect toleration to all religious sects?*—No; the laws, though greatly modified, did not tolerate the Roman Catholic form of worship, nor did they tolerate in Scotland the forms of the Protestant Episcopal Church. As regards perfect religious liberty, there were still, therefore, various deficiencies, the cause of future trouble.

360. *What were Nonjurors?*—They were clergymen who declined to swear an oath of allegiance to William and Mary—the term *Nonjuror* signifying Non-swearer. The dis-established Episcopal clergy in Scotland were for a time Nonjurors.

361. *Who succeeded King William?*—Anne, daughter of the exiled James II., who had been reared in England as a Protestant. She succeeded in virtue of an act of parliament passed in 1689, excluding Roman Catholics from the throne.

362. *What was the War of the Spanish Succession?*—It was a war which began in 1702, in the reign of King William; its object was to prevent a grandson of Louis XIV. of France from inheriting the crown of Spain, as it was feared that if he did so, the power of the French would be too great in Europe.

363. *Who were the principal parties in this war?*—On one side were England, Germany, and Holland—these powers being called the Grand Alliance; on the other side were France and Spain.

364. *Who was Marlborough?*—John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, was the greatest general and statesman of his time; he commanded in the wars of King William and Queen Anne, against the French, by whom he was popularly known as 'Malbrook.' Unfortunately for his memory, it has been discovered that while serving King William and Queen Anne, he was secretly befriending the exiled royal family—



Queen Anne.



a species of dishonesty very common among public men at that period.

365. *In what great battles was Marlborough victorious in the reign of Queen Anne?*—Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet. After the first victory, he was rewarded by parliament with the estate called Woodstock, in England, where the nation built for him the palace of Blenheim.

366. *When was Gibraltar taken by the English?*—Gibraltar was captured from the Spaniards in 1704, and though several times besieged, it has ever since remained a British possession.

367. *Was Queen Anne married?*—Yes; she had married George Prince of Denmark before she became queen; and she had seventeen children, all of whom predeceased her.

368. *What was the Act of Settlement?*—It was an act of parliament passed in the reign of William III., June 12, 1701, settling the succession to the throne; in the event of Anne dying without issue, the succession was limited to the descendants of Elizabeth Stuart, daughter of James I., being Protestants. As Sophia, wife of the Elector of Hanover, was the only surviving child of Elizabeth, who was a Protestant, all looked to her or her son as the successor of Queen Anne.

369. *Who was the Pretender?*—Such was the name given to James, son of James II., who, on the death of his father in 1701, was recognised by the Jacobites as rightful heir to the throne, under the title of James III.; the designation *Pretender* was given by the Whigs. The Pretender was also called the 'Chevalier de St George.'

370. *What was the Court of St Germain?*—It was the court of the exiled royal family at St Germain, in France, and was noted as a centre of projects to recover the throne. Pensioned by France, James II., and afterwards his son, the Pretender, were able to give secret bribes to Marlborough and others to secure their assistance.

371. *On what did the Jacobites found their hopes?*—They thought that as there had been one Restoration, so might there be another; and under this impression, they had long an expectation of seeing the Stuarts replaced on the throne.

372. *What effect had these hopes on the English Whigs?*—Fearing that the Stuarts might secure a footing in Scotland, they pressed forward the project of a thorough legislative union of the two kingdoms.

373. *Was the proposal of Union readily accepted by the Scots?*—No; it was violently opposed, more particularly by Andrew

Fletcher of Salton; and the act authorising the Union, was carried in the Scots parliament only by the administration of money bribes to a number of the members.

374. *When did the Union of England and Scotland take place?*—After much debate in both countries, a treaty of union was enacted, which came into operation on the 1st of May, 1707. On the 23d of October that year, the first united parliament of Great Britain met at Westminster. This event was the most important that took place in the reign of Queen Anne.

375. *What were the mutual advantages of the Union?*—The English secured a firm alliance with a nation that had been a trouble to them for ages; on the other hand, the Scots benefited by having the whole English dominions open to their enterprise, while at the same time they preserved their peculiar national institutions. History presents no instance of a more equitable, and, as it proved, more successful union of two nations.

376. *What was parliament called after the Union?*—It was called the BRITISH PARLIAMENT, and embraced representatives from England and Scotland—the parliament of Ireland being still left in that country.

377. *What was the flag of England previous to the Union?*—It was the cross of St George.

378. *What was the flag of Scotland previous to the Union?*—It was the cross of St Andrew.

379. *What was the flag of Great Britain after the Union?*—It was the crosses of St George and St Andrew blended, constituting a flag known as the *Union Jack*.

380. *Mention some noteworthy particulars concerning England at the Union.*—The population of England and Wales was little more than 5,000,000; the value of the whole annual exports was about £8,000,000; and the population of London and its suburbs was only about 500,000.

381. *Mention some noteworthy particulars concerning Scotland at the Union.*—The population was under 1,000,000, and comprehended at least 100,000 beggars and vagrants; the annual government revenue was no more than £110,000; the annual value of exports to England was but £130,000; and the population of Glasgow had not risen above 13,000.

382. *What is learned from a consideration of these particulars?*—We are made aware of the very backward condition of Great Britain, the prosperity of which had been greatly

retarded by internal wars and other social disorders during the seventeenth century.

383. *Did England and Scotland correspondingly advance after the Union?*—No; as more favoured by circumstances, England advanced the most rapidly; besides having most to recover, Scotland was fated to endure the commotions of two rebellions, and hence its progress is of comparatively recent date.

384. *What were the Sacheverell riots?*—They were riots in London in 1710, fomented by a mischievous sermon preached by Dr Henry Sacheverell before the Lord Mayor, 5th November 1709, denouncing the Revolution and the toleration of Dissenters; several chapels of Dissenters were burned on the occasion; the tumults were at length suppressed by the military. Sacheverell was tried for his seditious harangue by the House of Lords, and suspended as a preacher for three years; but the clergy, the country gentry, and the mob, espoused his cause, and for a time he was a very popular person.

385. *What was the Treaty of Utrecht?*—It was a treaty of peace between Great Britain and France, to which some other states acceded, 1713. It closed the Spanish War of Succession, as regards England. Austria, after carrying on the war a year longer, concluded the peace of Rastadt. By the treaty of Utrecht, the French king recognised the Protestant succession of the House of Hanover, to the exclusion of the Stuarts, and resigned Nova Scotia and some other colonial possessions to Great Britain.

386. *Did the Spanish War of Succession end favourably for Louis XIV.?*—It did so only to a certain extent. Louis gained Spain for his grandson, Philip V., who became the first of the Bourbons of that country; but besides the loss of colonies by France, Spain had to resign the Netherlands, Milan, Naples, and Sicily, which now entered on a new phase of history. Spain also relinquished Gibraltar, which had been taken by a British force in 1704.

387. *When did Queen Anne die?*—She died August 1, 1714, and with her expired the last member of the House of Stuart on the throne of Great Britain.

388. *What distinguished literary men flourished in the reign of Queen Anne?*—Joseph Addison, Sir Richard Steele, Daniel Defoe, Alexander Pope, Jonathan Swift, and others; and her reign has been called the Augustan age of English literature.

### From 1714 till the Reign of Queen Victoria.

389. *Who was George I.?*—He was George, Elector of Hanover, son of Sophia, youngest daughter of Elizabeth Stuart, Electress Palatine and Queen of Bohemia, who was daughter of James I. He succeeded to the throne on the demise of Queen Anne, August 1, 1714.

390. *Why did the succession devolve on Sophia and her descendants?*—Because all the other children of Elizabeth Stuart were either dead or had become Roman Catholics; Sophia, as the only Protestant in the family, would, in terms of the Act of Settlement, have succeeded as queen, but she died a few months before Queen Anne.

391. *What was the surname of the new dynasty?*—It was *Guelph*, but usually the dynasty is spoken of as the 'House of Hanover,' or 'House of Brunswick'—George I. having inherited from his father the dukedom of Brunswick-Luneburg.

392. *Did George retain Hanover on acceding to the English throne?*—Yes; he remained Elector of Hanover, and conducted the government of that country by deputy; Hanover continued for more than a century to be a continental principality of the British sovereigns.

393. *Could George I. speak English?*—Yes; but he spoke it very badly; and he brought with him a son, George, who also had neither the language nor the manners of a native-born Englishman—circumstances which tended to limit the popularity of the new dynasty.

394. *Were any efforts made by the Jacobites to prevent the accession of the Hanover family?*—No; the designs they entertained in favour of the Pretender were frustrated by the sudden demise of Queen Anne, and George I. was called to the throne without opposition.

395. *Who was Bolingbroke?*—Henry St John, Lord Bolingbroke, was a Tory statesman, minister of Queen Anne; having, like many of his party, intrigued with the Jacobites to bring in the Pretender, he fled to France at the accession of the Hanover family, but afterwards returned to England. He wrote some historical works and speculative treatises.

396. *What is the Riot Act?*—It is a statute enacted in 1715, in the reign of George I., which permits military force

to be used in dispersing a riotous mob, after a certain space of time has been allowed ; the principle of this celebrated act, however, was not new to English law, for there was a statute passed in the reign of Edward VI., rendering it treason for a crowd not to disperse after proclamation.

397. *What was the Rebellion of 1715 ?*—It was a rebellion in Scotland and the north of England to re-establish the Stuart dynasty in the person of the Pretender, or, as he was styled, James III., who landed in Scotland to aid in the enterprise.

398. *Who was the Earl of Mar ?*—He was a Scottish nobleman who raised the standard of rebellion in 1715, but his forces were defeated at Sheriffmuir, November 13 ; and on the same day the English rebels surrendered at Preston ; by which means this ill-advised insurrection was speedily terminated.

399. *Who was the Earl of Derwentwater ?*—He was an English nobleman who unhappily appeared in arms in the rebellion of 1715, but was taken prisoner at Preston, and beheaded in February 1716 ; Viscount Kenmure and about twenty inferior persons were also executed. The Earls of Mar and Nithsdale and the Pretender escaped to France.

400. *Who was Sir Robert Walpole ?*—He was an eminent Whig statesman, and prime-minister in the reigns of George I. and George II. ; it was owing, in a great degree, to his vigilance and good management that the plans of the Jacobites were frustrated, and the Hanover family fixed permanently on the throne. He was created Earl of Orford, and died in 1745.

401. *Was not Walpole accused of corrupt practices ?*—He was, and justly so. Living in an age in which there was little political honesty, he was in the habit of securing public men by bribes, and is reputed to have been the author of the memorable saying, that 'All men have their price.'

402. *For what was General Wade noted ?*—He was noted for the military roads which he surveyed and constructed in the Highlands, under the authority of government, between 1725 and 1735 ; besides opening up the country to travellers, these famed roads, along with certain forts, placed the Highlands under effectual military control.

403. *What was the South-sea Bubble ?*—It was a joint-stock commercial undertaking, called the South-sea Company, which was invested with exclusive powers of trading to the South Sea, and also certain privileges connected with national finance. Commencing in 1710, it speedily degenerated into a gambling speculation in shares. The whole affair was a mixture of delusion and imposture ; and when the 'bubble'

burst in 1720, the chief culprits absconded, and great numbers were ruined.

404. *When did the Methodists originate?*—The sect of Methodists was founded by John Wesley, a person of great vigour of character and eminent for his piety, about 1729—the name *Methodists* being given from the methodic strictness of the conduct of members of the sect.

405. *When did George I. die?*—He died, June 11, 1727, and was succeeded by his son, George II., who had been a number of years married, and had two sons, Frederick, Prince of Wales, and William, Duke of Cumberland; also several daughters.

406. *What great navigator was there in the reign of George II.?*—George Lord Anson, who made various voyages exploratory of unknown parts of the globe, and added greatly to the maritime glory of England. He died 1760.

407. *What was the Battle of Dettingen?*—It was a battle which occurred in the Austrian War of Succession—a war which, on the part of the English, was professedly undertaken to protect the king's Hanoverian dominions. The battle, which took place June 1743, ended favourably to the British and Hanoverian forces. George II. was present, and this was the last occasion of a king of Great Britain appearing on a field of battle.

408. *What was the Battle of Fontenoy?*—It was a battle in the Austrian War of Succession between the allies (English, Dutch, and Germans) under the Duke of Cumberland. and the French under Marshal Saxe, May 1745, in which there was great slaughter. The allies were at first successful, but were afterwards beaten and forced to retreat.

409. *What children had the Pretender?*—He had two sons, Charles-Edward, ordinarily called the Young Chevalier, and Henry-Benedict, who became an ecclesiastic, and was known as Cardinal York.

410. *What was the Rebellion of 1745?*—It was a rebellion of the Jacobites in Scotland, headed by Prince Charles-Edward, the Young Chevalier, who, for the purpose of 'recovering the throne of his ancestors' for his father, landed



Charles-Edward,  
the Young Chevalier

in Moidart, on the west coast of the Highlands, July 1745, and thence marched southwards with his followers.

411. *Who were the followers of the Young Chevalier?*—They were principally Highlanders under their respective chiefs, along with some Lowland Scottish noblemen and gentlemen, who had clung to the shattered fortunes of the Stuarts.

412. *When did the Young Chevalier enter Edinburgh?*—On the 16th September 1745, and five days afterwards (September 21) he fought the battle of Prestonpans, in which the royal forces under General Cope were completely routed, and Colonel James Gardiner was mortally wounded. This success of the rebel arms caused extreme consternation throughout England.

413. *How far did the rebel army march southwards?*—It reached as far as Derby, and there becoming disheartened, it commenced its retreat northwards, followed by the Duke of Cumberland.

414. *When was the Battle of Culloden fought?*—On the 16th of April 1746, when the royal forces under the Duke of Cumberland gained a complete victory over the rebels. After various hardships, the Young Chevalier escaped to France, and the cause of the Stuarts was for ever lost.

415. *What noblemen suffered for aiding in the Rebellion of 1745?*—Lords Balmerino, Kilmarnock, and Lovat, all of whom were beheaded.

416. *When did the line of Stuart become extinct?*—It became extinct, 1807, by the death of Cardinal York, who survived his brother, Charles-Edward, nineteen years. Long before this event, the Stuarts had vanished from popular remembrance.

417. *What effect had the extinction of the Rebellion on Scotland?*—Immediately after the rebellion, the country shook off various retarding influences, and started forward in a course of improvement; its advance was greatly promoted by the abolition of the heritable jurisdictions, and the institution of sheriffs on a proper footing.

418. *What were the Heritable Jurisdictions?*—They were rights of civil and criminal jurisdiction possessed heritably by certain families in connection with their lands, and were the source of much oppression and cruelty. As it was in virtue of these ancient and ill-defined rights that Highland chiefs exercised control over their clans, and landlords over their tenantry, their abolition became a matter of public safety.

419. *When were the Scottish heritable jurisdictions abolished?*

—They were abolished, along with all hereditary sheriffships, by an act of parliament, which came into operation in 1748; since which period sheriffs and other judicial functionaries in Scotland have been appointed by the crown.

420. *What was the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle?*—It was a treaty of peace in 1748—closing the Austrian War of Succession—between Great Britain, Austria, and Holland, on the one hand, and France, Spain, and Bavaria on the other, by which Britain and France mutually restored their conquests, and agreed to stand in the condition which they occupied when the war began nine years previously. By this war thirty millions were added to the national debt.

421. *What was the Seven Years' War?*—It was a great European war, between Prussia and England on the one side, and Austria, France, and Russia on the other. It originated in the dissatisfaction felt by Maria Theresa of Austria at the result of the previous wars for the possession of Silesia, between her and Frederick the Great, and lasted from 1756 to 1763. On account of the extensive colonial possessions of France and England, however, it was not confined to the continent of Europe, but was waged nearly all over the world.

422. *When was Calcutta taken from the English?*—It was captured on the 20th of June 1756, by Suraja Dowlah, governor of Bengal, who took the small garrison, consisting of 146 persons, prisoners.

423. *What event took place at the capture of Calcutta?*—The English prisoners, 146 in number, were confined in a small garrison prison, called the Black Hole, and from overcrowding and want of air, 123 died in a single night, leaving only 23 survivors. Calcutta was recovered by Clive.

424. *Who was Clive?*—Robert Clive was a young Englishman, originally only a clerk at Madras, in the Indian Civil Service, but who rose to be one of the greatest generals and statesmen of his time. His conquests were achieved in India. The greatest of his victories was the battle of Plassey, 1757, which laid the foundation of the British empire in Hindustan.

425. *How were Clive's services acknowledged?*—He was raised to the peerage under the title of Lord Clive, and his son was elevated to the earldom of Powis.

426. *Who was Admiral Byng?*—John Byng was a brave but ill-fated British admiral, who was accused of not supporting Admiral West in an attack on the French fleet in the Mediterranean, by which means that fleet escaped. For this act of



alleged cowardice he was tried and condemned to death, and was executed, 1757.

427. *Who was General Wolfe?*—He was commander of the British forces sent to Canada to attack the French. On the 13th September 1759, he gained the famous battle of Quebec, but was unfortunately killed in the moment of victory. Canada, which had hitherto been a French colony, was shortly afterwards surrendered to Great Britain.

428. *When did Frederick Prince of Wales die?*—He died in 1751, leaving a large family of children, the eldest of whom was George-William-Frederick, born June 4, 1738.

429. *When was the New Style adopted in England?*—It was adopted in 1752; under the authority of an act of parliament, eleven days were dropped out of the calendar—the 3d of September being reckoned the 14th. At the same time, the year was ordered to be begun on the 1st January instead of 25th of March, as had been the practice in Scotland since 1600.

430. *When did George II. die?*—He died on the 25th October 1760, when he was succeeded by his grandson, George-William-Frederick, who assumed the title of George III.

431. *What did the nation particularly appreciate in George III.?*—He was appreciated as being a native-born Englishman, the first who was so in the Hanover line; though obstinate in character, George III., throughout his long reign, was much esteemed for his domestic virtues and other valuable qualities.

432. *Who was the Earl of Bute?*—He was a Scottish nobleman, appointed prime-minister by George III. in 1762; by trying to extend the power of the crown at the expense of the constitutional rights of the legislature, Bute became extremely unpopular, and had to retire from office within less than a year. His most furious assailant was John Wilkes.

433. *Mention some circumstances concerning Wilkes?*—He was a member of parliament, and editor of a scurrilous paper, called the *North Briton*, in which he abused Lord Bute and the Scotch generally, and even brought accusations against the king, 1763.

434. *What was done with Wilkes?*—He was committed to the Tower, but being soon liberated, he continued for years to cause popular tumults, in which was raised the cry of 'Wilkes and Liberty!' With much foundation for his animadversions on public affairs, Wilkes was in reality a disreputable demagogue.

435. *What was the American Stamp Act?*—It was an act of parliament under the administration of Mr Grenville, 1765,

imposing stamps on certain documents in the British colonies in North America—the imposition of such stamps being a method of taxing the colonists for the benefit of the mother-country.

436. *What was deemed objectionable in the Stamp Act?*—The act was objected to by the colonists on the ground that, according to a fundamental principle in the British constitution, there could be no taxation without representation. As the colonists had no representatives in parliament, they called the Stamp Act tyranny.

437. *Did government, however, persist in taxing the colonists?*—Yes; by several successive acts they proceeded to impose various taxes on the colonists—on tea, glass, colours, &c.—which at length led to a general colonial rebellion.

438. *Who were the ministers chiefly concerned in producing the colonial rebellion?*—Mr Grenville and Lord North; but King George III. was perhaps quite as much to blame as his ministers.

439. *To what party of politicians did George III. incline?*—To the Tory party, which, from the early part of his reign, superseded the Whigs, who had long been in power.

440. *Who was Junius?*—Junius was an unknown writer of great ability, who, in 1769, commenced a series of letters in a newspaper, animadverting on the men and measures of government. No one has ever distinctly discovered who Junius was; but the balance of evidence is in favour of Sir Philip Francis. His letters are considered a model of pure and nervous English.

441. *When did the American War commence?*—It began in 1775, when, in vindication of their rights, the colonists took up arms. The first encounter with British troops was at Lexington, Massachusetts, April 18, 1775.

442. *When was the Battle of Bunker's Hill fought?*—It was fought June 17, 1775, when the British forces were victorious, but lost heavily.

443. *Mention some facts concerning General Washington.*—He was a distinguished Virginian who was appointed commander-in-chief of the American forces, 1775, and with consummate bravery and skill conducted the war against the British.



Washington.

444. *What was the number of British Colonies that revolted?*—Thirteen; to which there were subsequent accessions.

445. *When did the thirteen British Colonies declare their independence?*—They made their famous 'Declaration of Independence' at Philadelphia, July 4, 1776. From this time the colonies became known as the United States.

446. *How long did the American War continue?*—It continued from 1775 until 1782, and ended in the complete withdrawal of the British forces, and in the acknowledgment by George III. of the absolute independence of the colonies. By the American war a hundred millions were added to the national debt, and the crown lost three millions of subjects.

447. *Mention the names of those who became conspicuous in securing independence to the United States.*—George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, John Jay, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and Josiah Quincy. All were men of cultivated minds and firm resolution; but to Washington's military genius belongs the chief merit in this great and successful struggle.

448. *Were the Americans assisted by foreigners in throwing off the British authority?*—Yes; France, Spain, Holland, and some other countries took part with the Americans, by which means a general war ensued.

449. *Who was Rodney?*—Sir George Rodney was a British admiral, who gained a great victory over the French fleet in 1782, for which and other services he was created a peer, with the title of Lord Rodney, and was rewarded with a pension by parliament.

450. *What is now thought of the American War?*—The universal opinion in England now is that the colonists were in the right, and that the war against them was wrong. The great English statesmen then living were always against it. The Earl of Chatham affirmed that the colonists would have been slaves if they had not resisted; and the younger Pitt denounced the war as 'conceived in injustice and nurtured in folly,' as 'impious' and 'detestable;' and praised the colonists as 'men fighting in the holy cause of liberty.'

451. *What eminent English writer supported government in the project of taxing the colonies?*—Dr Samuel Johnson, who wrote a pamphlet on the subject, entitled *Taxation no Tyranny*.

452. *Who was Charles James Fox?*—He was a celebrated Whig statesman, second son of the first Lord Holland. He

came into public notice in 1770, and was ultimately distinguished as the parliamentary opponent of Mr Pitt.

453. *Who was Mr Pitt?*—William Pitt was a celebrated statesman, a younger son of the Earl of Chatham. He began public life as a promoter of Reform in the House of Commons; and his political principles were always liberal, alike in matters of representation, religious opinion, and commerce; but his 'patriotism' led him to oppose the French revolutionists and the policy of Bonaparte, and led the nation into costly foreign wars. Fox was the great opponent of his foreign policy.

454. *What was the scheme of the Sinking Fund?*—It was a celebrated and fallacious scheme for paying off the National Debt, by setting aside any excess of revenue to accumulate at compound interest; both Fox and Pitt favoured this project, not perceiving that the shortest way of lessening debt is simply to discharge it as fast as possible. It was not, however, until 1813 that the fallacy of the Sinking Fund was discovered.

455. *Who was Mr Burke?*—Edmund Burke was a philosopher and politician, who attained to great distinction as a parliamentary orator in the reign of George III. He began public life as a Whig, but concluded as an adherent of Pitt. His most celebrated speech was at the opening of the trial of Warren Hastings, 1788.

456. *What were the Lord George Gordon Riots?*—They were dreadful riots in London in 1780, headed by Lord George Gordon (a son of the Duke of Gordon), in which great damage was done until they were suppressed by the military.

457. *What was the cause of the Gordon riots?*—It was the passing of a bill in parliament in 1778, relieving the Roman Catholics from some of the penal laws affecting them. The wish of the rioters was to recall this act of the legislature, and 'No Popery' was their distinguishing cry. This intemperate outbreak was entirely unsuccessful; and Lord George Gordon, who is believed to have been of unsound mind, died in Newgate prison, 1793.

458. *Who was Warren Hastings?*—He was an Englishman who, by his great abilities, rose from a humble position in India to be governor-general of that country, 1773, under the East India Company, which thanked and rewarded him for his great services.

459. *Of what was Warren Hastings accused?*—He was

impeached at the bar of the House of Lords for using corrupt and unjustifiable means to increase the finances of the East India Company; his accusers were Burke, Fox, Sheridan, and other members of the Whig party. This memorable trial began in 1788, and did not end until 1795, when the House pronounced a verdict of acquittal.

460. *What maritime discoveries were made in the early part of the reign of George III.?*—Important discoveries were made in the Pacific Ocean by Captain James Cook, an eminent navigator, who was killed at Hawaii, 1779.

461. *What mechanical inventions were made in the early part of the reign of George III.?*—The steam-engine was perfected by James Watt; spinning machinery was invented by the successive efforts of James Hargreave, Richard Arkwright, and Samuel Crompton; and, finally, the power-loom was invented by the Rev. D. E. Cartwright, 1785—by all which inventions the manufacturing prosperity of the country was prodigiously increased.

462. *When were mail-coaches introduced?*—They were introduced by John Palmer of Bath in 1784; they became general in 1785, and formed a great improvement on the old methods of conveyance.

463. *When did the French Revolution break out?*—It broke out in 1789; monarchy was abolished, and a republic instituted 1792; and Louis XVI. was executed 1793.

464. *When was war proclaimed by Great Britain against the French Republic?*—War was proclaimed February 1, 1793, in order to check the progress of French revolutionary principles, and restrain French conquests.

465. *Was the French war popular?*—Yes; by all but a small party the war met with general approval, and was expected to end triumphantly for Great Britain in a very short time.

466. *How long did the French war last?*—With a short interval of peace in 1802—1803, it lasted until 1814, or altogether about nineteen years; the hopeful anticipations of its early termination being entirely falsified.

467. *Was the war from first to last against the French republic?*—No; during its progress, Napoleon Bonaparte rose to power in France, and against him—first as consul, and afterwards as emperor—the war was carried on.

468. *What was the Treaty of Amiens?*—It was a treaty at Amiens in March 1802, establishing peace with the French; but this peace endured only until May 1803, when the war was resumed.

469. *What great naval commander arose during the early part of the French war?*—Horatio Nelson; who, for his eminent services, was raised to the peerage as Lord Nelson, and afterwards elevated to a Viscountcy. Nelson was killed on board the *Victory*, at the battle of Trafalgar, October 21, 1805. His body was interred with public honours in St Paul's Cathedral.



Nelson.

470. *When was Malta captured?*—It was captured by the British from the French in 1800, after a siege of two years. The French, who had taken the island from a military order styled the Knights of Malta, were expelled; Malta remains a British possession.

471. *Did the French threaten to invade Great Britain?*—Yes; they threatened invasions of England from 1792 to 1797, and afterwards, under Bonaparte, from 1802 till 1804, but desisted from the attempt. A small army effected an invasion of Ireland in 1798, in order to render aid to the Irish rebels, but were speedily made prisoners.

472. *When did the Irish Rebellion take place?*—It broke out in 1798, just before the landing of the French, and was soon extinguished.

473. *What was the cause of this rebellion?*—It was a hopelessness in procuring redress of a variety of serious national grievances by lawful and constitutional means. Though defeated, the rebellion caused the government to turn attention to Ireland, with a view to a union with Great Britain.

474. *When did the Union with Ireland take place?*—It took place on the 1st January 1801; by this event the Irish parliament was abolished, and the Irish sent representatives to the parliament at Westminster, which was now called the IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

475. *Was the Union popular in Ireland?*—No; it was almost universally opposed; but the measure, as in the case of Scotland, was carried by the liberal administration of bribes and government patronage among the native legislators. By this union, however, Ireland obtained many important commercial and social benefits.

476. *Was any change made on the British flag at the Union*

*with Ireland?*—Yes; certain white streaks were blended—in the language of heraldry, *fimbriated*—with the crosses of St George and St Andrew. So altered, the Union Jack became as we now see it.

477. *What were the 'Berlin and Milan Decrees?'*—They were decrees issued by Napoleon—the first in 1806, and the second in 1807—interdicting any commerce with England, and declaring the British Islands in a state of blockade; the object of the decrees was to damage the trade of Great Britain.

478. *What were the 'Orders in Council?'*—They were decrees or orders issued by the British Privy Council in 1807, as reprisals for Napoleon's Berlin and Milan Decrees. By these 'orders,' all trade was interdicted with ports occupied by the French.

479. *What was the 'Right of Search?'*—It was a right assumed by Great Britain to search the ships of the United States for sailors who were British subjects. The exercise of this right, along with other grounds of complaint, caused the United States to declare war against Great Britain in June 1812.

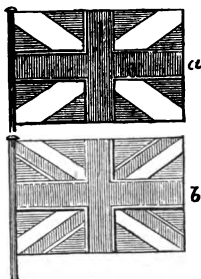
480. *How long did this American war last?*—It lasted until December 1814, and increased the troubles arising out of the war in the Peninsula.

481. *What was the Peninsular War?*—It was a part of the great French war, carried on in Spain, with a view to drive the French out of that country; it began in 1808, and terminated at the general peace in 1814.

482. *Who were the noted British commanders in the Peninsular War?*—Sir John Moore, and latterly Sir Arthur Wellesley, who was raised to the peerage under the title of Lord Wellington.

483. *What was the fate of Sir John Moore?*—He was killed at the battle of Corunna, January 16, 1809, and hastily buried on the ramparts of the fort. He had just completed a masterly retreat before a superior force.

484. *What was the career of Lord Wellington?*—He gained a succession of brilliant victories in the Peninsula, and for his signal services was created Duke of Wellington. The greatest of his battles was that of Waterloo.



Union Jack :  
a, before, b, after, the union  
with Ireland.

485. *When was the battle of Waterloo fought?*—It was fought on the 18th of June 1815; and was a final struggle of the British and their allies against Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of the French. The British forces under Wellington were completely victorious, and Napoleon was exiled to St Helena, where he died, 5th May 1821.



Wellington.

486. *How long did the Duke of Wellington survive?*—He lived a number of years after the restoration of peace, and was distinguished as a statesman; he died 1852, and was honoured with a public funeral, when his remains were deposited in St Paul's Cathedral.

487. *What were the effects of the great French war on England?*—Besides causing a great loss of life, embarrassing trade and commerce, and retarding social advancement, the war added six hundred millions to the national debt.

488. *Did the useful arts advance during the war?*—Yes; but very slowly, for the country was for years almost entirely occupied with military affairs.

489. *Mention some of the mechanical and other improvements during the progress of the war.*—The manufacture of paper by machinery was perfected in 1807; steam-navigation was introduced about 1812; printing machinery came into use in 1814; and in the same year lighting with gas was employed in the streets of London.

490. *What family had George III.?*—He had a large family of sons and daughters. His sons were, George Prince of Wales, Frederick Duke of York, William-Henry Duke of Clarence, Edward Duke of Kent, Ernest-Augustus Duke of Cumberland, Augustus-Frederick Duke of Sussex, and Adolphus-Frederick Duke of Cambridge.

491. *What was the Regency?*—It was the government under George Prince of Wales, who was appointed Prince Regent in 1811, in consequence of the aberration of intellect of the king. This regency lasted until the death of George III.

492. *What was the state of the nation under the Regency?*—After the conclusion of the war, there was great national depression, attended by various political disturbances.

493. *Who was the Princess Charlotte?*—She was the daughter



and only child of George Prince Regent, and was married to Prince Leopold of Saxe-Cobourg in 1816. To the inexpressible grief of the nation, the princess died in November 1817.

494. *When did George III. die?*—He died January 29, 1820, in his eighty-second year, after a long reign of nearly sixty years, and was succeeded by George Prince Regent under the title of George IV.

495. *What legal ameliorations took place in the reign of George IV.?*—Certain harsh enactments, called the 'Test and Corporation Acts,' excluding Dissenters and Roman Catholics from holding any civil or military offices, were abolished in 1828, and the acts imposing various legal disabilities on Roman Catholics were repealed in 1829.

496. *When did George IV. die?*—He died 26th June 1830, and was succeeded by his next surviving brother, the Duke of Clarence, who ascended the throne as William IV.

497. *What were the Reform Bills?*—They were bills introduced into parliament between 1831 and 1832, for altering and extending the system of representation in parliament, by which large numbers of persons were to be admitted to the privilege of being electors. The first two bills were thrown out after great debating and partial success on the part of the Reformers, but the third passed in 1832. An additional bill was afterwards passed for reforming the municipal corporations.

498. *What was practically the effect of these Reforms?*—The effect was a considerable change in the political constitution of the country, by which power was in a certain degree transferred from the aristocracy to the middle classes.

499. *When was slavery abolished throughout the British possessions?*—The act for the abolition of slavery was passed 1833, when parliament voted the sum of £20,000,000 as compensation to the owners of slaves; all were made free on the 1st August 1834, excepting those in the East Indies, who were freed in 1838—since which time there has not been a slave in any part of the British dominions.

500. *When did Railways commence?*—They began in the reign of George IV., but were not properly established until the reign of William IV., or from 1830 till 1837.

501. *When did King William die?*—He died June 20, 1837, when he was succeeded by his niece, Victoria, daughter of Edward Duke of Kent.

502. *When did Hanover cease to belong to British sovereigns?*—It was relinquished on the death of William IV., when, in

virtue of the Salic law, it passed by inheritance to Ernest Duke of Cumberland, who accordingly became king of Hanover.

503. *What is the Salic Law?*—It is a law adopted in certain continental states, by which females are excluded from being heirs to the throne. The term *salic* or *salique* is of uncertain origin.

504. *Whom did Queen Victoria marry?*—Her Majesty married Prince Albert of Saxe-Cobourg, February 10, 1840; Prince Albert was afterwards styled the Prince Consort.

505. *What were the Corn Laws?*—They were certain statutory enactments for restraining the importation of foreign corn; these laws were of old date, but were confirmed and strengthened by an act of parliament, 1814.

506. *What was the professed object of the Corn Laws?*—It was to encourage the growth of corn in the United Kingdom, and so sustain the agriculture of the country. Other reasons were assigned, but the practical effect of all the laws on the subject was to raise the price of bread.



Queen Victoria.

507. *What was the Anti-corn-law League?*—It was an association in England, founded in 1834, to agitate for a repeal of the corn laws, on the ground that they were injurious to public and private interests. After much public discussion, the corn laws were repealed at the instance of Sir Robert Peel, an eminent statesman, 1846.

508. *Who was Richard Cobden?*—He was a leading member of the Anti-corn-law League, and member of parliament, who performed signal service to the nation by promoting free-trade measures, and effecting a beneficial treaty of commerce with France. He died universally lamented in 1865.

509. *What was the Crimean War?*—It was a war levied by the British and French against Russia, in order to check the encroachments of that power on Turkey. It was called Crimean, from being chiefly carried on in the Crimea, a peninsula in the north of the Black Sea. The war terminated in 1856, by Russia agreeing to respect the independence of Turkey.

510. *Under what form of government did British I* . . .

*to importance?*—Under the government of a great commercial association, called the East India Company; the administration was conducted by Directors at the 'India House,' London.

511. *When was the East India Company constituted?*—It was constituted by royal charter, 1600; but it had many subsequent charters extending its powers, which embraced the employment of an army composed chiefly of *Sepoys* or natives of India.

512. *How did the Company extend its dominion over India?*—From a small beginning at Calcutta, it extended its territories by gifts from, and wars against, native princes; in the course of which wars, several Englishmen greatly distinguished themselves.

513. *Mention some of the persons who rose to note by their services in India.*—Robert Clive, Warren Hastings, Sir Arthur Wellesley, Lord Lake, Marquis of Hastings, Sir Charles Napier, Sir Colin Campbell, and Sir Hugh Rose.

514. *What was the Indian Revolt?*—It was a widespread rebellion which broke out in India in 1857 against the British authority; the rebels being chiefly *Sepoys*, or native soldiers in the pay of government. This revolt was suppressed by a strong military force under Sir Colin Campbell in 1858. For his eminent services, Sir Colin was raised to the peerage, under the title of Lord Clyde.

515. *When did the government of the East India Company terminate?*—It came to a close November 1, 1858, when the direct sovereignty of the Queen was substituted for the rule of the Company—this change having taken place partly on account of the revolt in India, 1857. Some of the trading privileges of the Company had been previously abolished.

516. *When did the Prince Consort die?*—He died, to the grief of the whole nation, December 14, 1861.

517. *Who is the Heir-apparent to the throne?*—Albert-Edward Prince of Wales, born 9th November 1841, who married the Princess Alexandra of Denmark, 10th March 1863.

518. *What is the Annual Income of the United Kingdom?*—It is upwards of £70,000,000; from which, after deducting payment of interest on the National Debt, there is a balance of about £44,000,000, for all the expenses of government.

519. *What is now the amount of the National Debt?*—It amounts to about £790,000,000, necessitating the payment of an annual interest of about £26,000,000.

520. *Mention some particulars shewing the progress of the nation since the Union of England and Scotland in 1707 :*

1. The population of England and Wales has risen from little more than 5,000,000 to 20,000,000.

2. The population of Scotland has risen from under 1,000,000 to upwards of 3,000,000.

3. The population of London and its suburbs has risen from 500,000 to about 3,000,000.

4. From being a poor country with little trade, Scotland has made immense advances in agriculture, trade, manufactures, and the arts generally ; in particular, its revenue to government has risen from £110,000 to £5,500,000, and the population of Glasgow has risen from 13,000 to upwards of 400,000.

5. Commercial and manufacturing industries have made immense progress ; and exports from Great Britain and Ireland have risen from an insignificant amount to be about £160,000,000 annually.

521. *To what is the great prosperity of the United Kingdom owing ?—Among other noted causes are :*

1. A settled constitutional government, free of any contentions respecting the right to the crown, such as long distracted the country.

2. Universal respect for the law, which is everywhere administered with good-temper and uprightness.

3. Numerous and most important mechanical improvements, particularly the introduction of steam as a means of moving machinery.

4. The freedom enjoyed by all in their daily pursuits—a degree of freedom which cannot possibly exist in countries where the people are disposed to conspire against public authority, or break into disorder.

5. The prevalence of religious instruction and general education ; also, the very general diffusion of literature and a taste for reading.

## The British Constitution—Jurisprudence.

1. *What is the nature of the British government?*—It is a limited monarchy, with a hereditary sovereign, who reigns according to certain restrictions prescribed by the constitution. In its present form, the constitution dates from the Revolution Settlement, 1689.

2. *What is the 'Cabinet?'*—It consists of a number of ministers, who are intrusted by the sovereign with the executive part of the government—the sovereign (whether king or queen) ruling only through them and by their advice. All executive acts proceed in the name of the sovereign.

3. *What regulates the sovereign in the choice of ministers?*—The sovereign selects or employs only such statesmen to act as ministers as possess the confidence of the two houses of parliament. Usually, the process of selection is left to one termed *prime minister*, and no one can long act as prime minister who cannot ensure majorities in parliament to carry government measures.

4. *Does government, then, rest substantially with the Houses of Parliament?*—It does; and chiefly with the House of Commons, which originates all measures for granting supplies of money to carry on public affairs.

5. *What ensues when the prime minister fails to secure majorities in voting money bills or other important measures?*—Either the ministry must be dismissed, and a new ministry appointed, or the sovereign must dissolve the House of Commons, and cause a new one to be elected.

6. *What is the Privy Council?*—It is an assembly of advisers on matters of state appointed by the sovereign, and is composed principally of the cabinet ministers, along with certain judges, members of the nobility, and commoners. Immediately on the decease of the sovereign, the Privy Council proclaims the successor.

7. *What are 'orders in council?'*—They are orders having the effect of law, which the Privy Council is authorised by statutes to issue in cases of national emergency.

8. *What is the Nobility?*—The nobility and peerage are a body of individuals raised by rank, dignity, and title, above the mass of the people or commoners.

9. *In whom lies the right of creating peers?*—The right of creating peers is in the sovereign, who is 'the fountain of honour' in the constitution; but in this, as in other matters, the sovereign acts only by the advice of the ministry.

10. *On what ground are persons raised to the peerage?*—They are raised to the peerage for distinguished public services. The aristocracy, therefore, is constantly receiving accessions from the people, while the people are as constantly absorbing back into their ranks the junior branches of the nobility and their descendants.

11. *How many ranks are there in the peerage?*—Five; namely, Baron, Viscount, Earl, Marquis, and Duke, which is the highest. Peers are raised from lower to higher ranks—still, however, retaining the lower titles and dignities.

12. *Is nobility hereditary?*—Yes; rank and title, along with family landed possessions, are inherited by the eldest surviving son according to the rule of primogeniture—a term equivalent to 'first born'—unless there be some special provision to the contrary.

13. *Mention an effect of primogeniture?*—One of its effects is to give great stability to certain families of wealth and distinction, who from generation to generation impart the quality of steadiness and permanence to the national institutions.

14. *Do the younger children of a peer enjoy titles by inheritance?*—They do not; in law, they are commoners; but usually they enjoy certain titles by courtesy. Thus, the eldest son of a duke is called by his father's second title, until he succeeds to the family honours, and the other sons are called Lords by courtesy.

15. *What are the national distinctions in the peerage?*—There are Scots, English, and Irish peers, also peers of Great Britain, and peers of the United Kingdom. These distinctions arise out of historical circumstances, and have no relation to place of birth; for example, an Englishman or Scotsman may be an Irish peer, and an Irishman may be a peer of Great Britain.

16. *Have these various peers equal parliamentary privileges?*—No; English peers, and peers of Great Britain and of the United Kingdom, have a seat in the House of Lords. The Scots peers elect sixteen of their number to the House of Lords; and a new election of them takes place every parliament. The Irish peers elect twenty-eight of their number to the House of Lords, and they sit for life.

17. *Can peers be representatives in the House of Commons?*—Only members of the peerage of Ireland can be so; besides

being represented in the Lords, they can be representatives for boroughs or counties in the Commons. For example, Lord Palmerston, who belonged to the peerage of Ireland, sat in the Commons for an English borough. Sons of noblemen with courtesy titles are eligible as members of the House of Commons.

18. *What is the number of members in the House of Commons?*—The number is 658, who are partly elected by counties and partly by boroughs; several are also elected by universities. No one can vote at elections unless his name has been previously placed on a public register.

19. *What is the duration of parliament?*—The existence of a parliament is limited to seven years; but few parliaments last more than four or five years. A session of parliament is the period it sits annually, and ordinarily extends from February till July.

20. *What is the number of members in the House of Lords?*—The number is at present 454, consisting of certain royal princes, peers who enjoy the right by heritage, the Irish and Scots representative peers, and certain lords-spiritual.

21. *Are there not several Scots peers in the House of Lords, besides the sixteen representative peers?*—Yes; but only because they are at the same time peers of England, Great Britain, or the United Kingdom. For example, the Duke of Buccleuch sits in the Lords as Earl of Doncaster, in the peerage of England.

22. *What are lords-spiritual?*—They are the archbishops and bishops of the church of England and Ireland. These may be described as an elective nobility, though they are not absolutely peers.

23. *What is the number of lords-spiritual in the House of Lords?*—The number is 30, consisting of 2 English archbishops, 24 English bishops, 1 representative Irish archbishop, and 3 representative Irish bishops.

24. *Why is the Bishop of the Isle of Man called 'Bishop of Sodor and Man'?*—The term Sodor is an abbreviation of *Sodorenses*, the Latinised form of Sudoreys, the bishopric of which was at one time associated with that of Man. These Sudoreys were the Hebrides, or Southern Islands—so called to distinguish them from the Orkney or Northern Islands. As the Hebrides are now included in the ecclesiastical system of Scotland, the term Sodor, as far as regards its original meaning, is merely titular.

25. *Who act as chairmen in the Houses of Parliament?*—The Lord Chancellor (who by present usage must have been a

distinguished lawyer) presides in the House of Lords. The House of Commons elects one of its members to preside, and he is styled 'the Speaker.'

26. *What is meant by the 'woolsack'?*—The woolsack is the seat of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords; it consists of a large bag of wool covered with red cloth, but though fashioned like a seat, is without back or arms. The woolsack is said to have had its origin in the circumstance of wool being anciently a staple article of produce in England.

27. *How does a proposed measure become law?*—The measure is first in the form of a 'bill,' which must pass or be sanctioned by the two Houses of Parliament, and also receive the royal assent, before it becomes law. When so passed and assented to, the measure is called 'an Act of Parliament,' or statute.

28. *What are the means provided by the constitution for a redress of grievances?*—The constitution gives the right of petitioning parliament for the abolition or amendment of any objectionable law—which right includes the important privilege of assembling peacefully to consider and draw up the petition. This is deemed one of the great bulwarks of civil liberty in the British dominions.

29. *Does government interfere in elections?*—No; government, and all government officials whatsoever, usually abstain from interfering in elections, by which great liberty of action ensues. This is one of the very estimable points in the constitution. Government similarly abstains from attempts to regulate public opinion on matters of general policy—a circumstance which contrasts favourably with the practices that prevail in some continental countries.

30. *Is monarchy esteemed as a national institution?*—It is exceedingly so, for several considerations—1. Its great antiquity and identification with national traditions; 2. A knowledge of the disasters and contentions which ensued on its temporary overthrow in 1649; 3. A belief that, as now constitutionally established, it is best adapted to secure public liberty, along with exemption from the exasperations and conflicts of party; and, 4. A deep-seated sentiment of loyalty and affectionate regard for the sovereign who now occupies the throne.



Crown.

31. *What is a 'Coronation'?*—It is a ceremony in which



the sovereign is solemnly invested with a crown, significant of royal dignity and authority.

32. *How is the term, 'the crown,' figuratively employed?*—The term is often used to signify the royal authority. Thus, people speak of 'crown lawyers'—meaning lawyers who act for the sovereign—and also of 'appointments by the crown.'

33. *What is the scale of precedence?*—It is a scale established by statutes and ancient usage determining the social position of every individual from the sovereign downwards—an arrangement by which all contests as to precedence are avoided on the occasion of state or public ceremonials. The number of ranks in the scale of precedence is upwards of a hundred; in this scale wealth is not reckoned.

34. *Who are entitled to the distinction of Esquire?*—The sons of the nobility and their eldest sons, the eldest sons of knights and their eldest sons, judges, justices of peace, commissioned officers, barristers, persons so styled in writs of the crown, and some others. 'Esquire' has latterly been so much abused that it has almost lost its distinctive value. The term is from the French *escuir*, a shield-bearer (Lat. *scutum*, a shield), and was applied to the armour-bearer of a knight.

35. *What is the constitution of the Church of England?*—It is a Protestant Episcopacy, comprehending three orders of clergy—bishops, priests, and deacons; the whole under the Queen as 'head of the church.' The Archbishop of Canterbury is styled Primate of all England, and has the privilege of placing the crown on the head of the sovereign at coronations.

36. *How is the Church of England supported?*—It is established by law as the religion of the state, and is supported by a variety of endowments, for the most part of old date.

37. *What is a 'congé d'élire'?*—It is an old French phrase signifying 'leave or permission to elect.' It is the name given in England to a warrant from the sovereign, permitting the dean and chapter of a cathedral to elect a bishop to a vacant see. The *congé d'élire*, however, is accompanied with a missive, pointing out who should be elected, which it is illegal to disregard.

38. *What is 'Convocation,' as applied to the Church of England?*—Convocation is the name given to an assembly of the clergy, which occasionally meets to discuss ecclesiastical questions. This meeting, however, possesses no power of legislation; for the church is entirely regulated by parliament, while its discipline belongs to a class of tribunals called the ecclesiastical courts.

39. *What is meant by 'Holy Orders'?*—It is a phrase in use among members of the Church of Rome and Church of England, and denotes entrance into the order of the priesthood. Holy orders are conferred by a solemn act of ordination by bishops, and invest the recipient with a sacred character distinctly apart from the laity.

40. *Is the sacred character of Holy Orders indelible?*—It is so in ordinary circumstances. In the Church of Rome, the pope has the power of removing the sacred character of a priest and restoring him to the laity; in the Church of England, an act of parliament would be required to do so. Accordingly, persons who have entered holy orders in England are in point of law ineligible for various civil offices, including that of a representative in the House of Commons.

41. *What is meant by 'benefit of clergy'?*—It is an expression referring to a former state of the law in England, when a clergyman had the benefit of being exempted from prosecution for alleged crimes and offences before any civil tribunal. In course of time, laymen who could read claimed and were allowed the like privilege. 'Benefit of clergy' was finally abolished in the reign of George IV.

42. *What is the constitution of the Church of Scotland?*—It is a Protestant Presbyterianism, established in place of Episcopacy in 1690; but with certain modifications, it was the form of Protestantism instituted at the Reformation in Scotland. Its ministers are equal in rank, and are assisted in maintaining church-discipline by lay-elders.

43. *How is the Church of Scotland supported?*—It is, like the Church of England, maintained by endowments, mostly of old date—certain landowners in each parish being under a legal obligation to pay a specified stipend to the minister out of church-property in their possession.

44. *What is the General Assembly?*—It is the highest church-court in Scotland, composed of a certain number of representative ministers and elders, and meets once a year in Edinburgh. The crown appoints a president, called a Royal Commissioner, but he takes no part in the proceedings; the acting president is one of the representative ministers, elected by votes of the members, and styled Moderator.

45. *What are Dissenters?*—They are bodies of Christians who dissent from the form of government and doctrines of the Established Church—*dissenter* being a modern term for *nonconformist*. All dissenters, of whatever denomination, enjoy entire freedom of opinion, and conduct divine service according to the forms of which they approve.

46. *What are Seceders?*—They are certain religious bodies in Scotland who have seceded or separated from the Established Church, and are legally in the position of dissenters. The chief seceding body is the *United Presbyterian*, which has been formed by the amalgamation of different sects at different times. The *Free Church*, constituted in 1843, declines in theory to consider itself a 'seceding' body—designating the event of 1843 not a secession but a *disruption*.

47. *What is Erastianism?*—It is a term of reproach, signifying the condition of a church which is under the control of the state. It is derived from Thomas Erastus, a learned Swiss theologian (died 1583), whose writings on this subject, however, have been greatly misapprehended.

48. *What is international law?*—It is a generally understood body of principles which regulate the intercourse between different states, and have been expounded by various writers.

49. *Mention some authorities on international law.*—Puffendorf, Grotius, and Vattel are the principal; Vattel, a native of Neufchatel (died 1767) is the chief authority; his famed work on the subject is his *Droit des Gens* (Law of Nations).

50. *What is a 'casus belli'?*—It is an act of hostility on the part of one nation against another, sufficient to give occasion for a proclamation of war.

51. *What are belligerents?*—They are states which are carrying on war against each other, according to the ordinary recognised principles of warfare; the term is from the Latin *belligero*, to wage war.

52. *What is the right of blockade?*—It is a right possessed by each belligerent to close the ports of the enemy against traffic with neutral powers; but to be effectual, the ports must be actually closed and guarded by war-vessels, not merely declared to be so.

53. *What is 'contraband of war'?*—It consists of warlike materials supplied by neutrals to a belligerent, contrary to the conditions which should regulate national intercourse in a time of war.

54. *What are prisoners of war?*—They are soldiers and others taken captive in war; according to civilised usages, the lives of prisoners of war are spared on surrendering, and the captives are restored to liberty on the occurrence of peace.

55. *What is 'martial law'?*—It is the law of military force, which is brought into operation when, for some reason, the civil law is suspended. A town in such a state of riotous

disorder as to be beyond the control of the civil authorities, may be legally placed for a time under martial law.

56. *What was the Roman civil law?*—It was a great body of Roman laws affecting rights and relationships among individuals, which was digested into a code by Justinian about the middle of the 6th century.<sup>1</sup>

57. *In what language was the code of Justinian drawn up?*—The whole was written in Latin, and now forms a huge volume, under the title *Corpus Juris Civilis* (Body of Civil Law). After being lost during the commotions of the middle ages, a solitary copy of this great digest was found at Amalfi, in Italy, 1137, and was forthwith studied by modern nations.

58. *Did many modern nations embrace the Roman civil law?*—Yes; it became the basis of municipal law in most European countries—some adopting it more than others.

59. *Have continental nations adhered to the Roman law?*—They have done so only to a limited extent. It has been generally superseded by an entirely new digest, called the *Code Napoleon*, framed by orders of Napoleon Bonaparte, between 1803 and 1808. A number of the provisions of the *Code Napoleon*, however, are drawn from the Roman law.

60. *What was the 'Canon Law'?*—It was a body of laws and regulations affecting the Roman Catholic Church, and originated in ecclesiastical decrees from the beginning of the 4th to the end of the 12th century.

61. *Of what did the Canon Law treat?*—It treated of benefices, the lives and conversation of clergymen, matrimony, divorces, and other matters falling within the scope of church-discipline.

62. *Is the Canon Law still in operation?*—Yes; in Roman Catholic countries, though modified by modern legislation, and by 'concordats' or agreements with the pope.

63. *What kind of law prevails in the United Kingdom?*—It is law of a very miscellaneous kind; England and Ireland have one species of law, and Scotland has another; but a number of statutes apply to the three countries.

64. *Explain the nature of the English law.*—It consists mainly of statutes passed from time to time by the legislature, and of what is called 'common law'—that is, certain rules of old standing, as expounded by legal authorities. But to these two varieties is added a species of canon law, drawn from the ancient ecclesiastical law in use before the Reformation.

<sup>1</sup> See *Historical Questions*, p. 62.

65. *We hear of 'law and equity'; what is meant by 'equity'?*—By 'equity' is signified those principles of justice which are not reached by any statute or rule of common law, and require to be dealt with separately. For this branch of jurisprudence there are special courts in England.

66. *Mention two of the principal law-courts in England.*—The Court of Common Pleas, and the Court of Queen's (or King's) Bench.

67. *What are the Equity Courts in England?*—The Lord Chancellor's Court, the Master of the Rolls' Court, and the Courts of the three Vice-Chancellors.

68. *What is meant by 'oyer and terminer'?*—*Oyer and terminer* are words from the French, signifying 'to hear and determine.' The phrase is usually applied to certain special courts held for the purpose of trying persons accused of seditious and treasonous practices; but all commissions from the crown to judges to hold courts of justice are, strictly speaking, of the nature of 'oyer and terminer.'

69. *Who was Sir Thomas Littleton?*—He was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, 1466, and was celebrated as the author of a work on *Tenures*, useful for lawyers.

70. *Who was Sir Edward Coke?*—He was an eminent lawyer in the reigns of James I. and Charles I., who filled the office of Chief-Justice of the Court of King's Bench; he is remembered as the author of a minute and laborious Commentary on the work of Sir Thomas Littleton, usually styled *Coke upon Littleton*, which remains a leading authority on English law.

71. *Who was Sir William Blackstone?*—He was a learned judge in the Court of Common Pleas, who died 1780. Blackstone is best known for his *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, a work first published in 1765, which, from its tasteful and popular style, has been often reprinted.

72. *What law prevails in the British colonies?*—When the colonies are of British origin, the law and legal usages of England prevail. When the colonies or dependencies are of foreign origin, the law of the original settlers is, by stipulation, for the most part maintained. For example, in the Cape of Good Hope, which was originally a Dutch colony, the old Dutch (or Roman civil) law prevails.

73. *What law prevails in India?*—Several kinds of law are maintained in that great dependency, in order to suit the habits and usages of a mixed population. For the aboriginal Hindus there is the Hindu law; for the Mohammedans, the

law of the Koran ; and for British settlers, the law of England. Judges are appointed to administer these diverse laws.

74. *What law prevails in Scotland?*—The old Roman civil law, modified by modern statutes, and a common law of native growth.

75. *Mention a work in which the law of Scotland is embodied.*—The best known work on the subject is Erskine's *Principles of the Law of Scotland*, published in 1754, which remains a well-known text-book.

76. *What is the supreme civil court in Scotland?*—It is the Court of Session, which comprehends jurisdiction in cases of equity as well as law.

77. *What is the supreme court of appeal in the United Kingdom?*—It is the House of Lords, to which cases may be appealed for decision from the chief civil courts in England, Ireland, and Scotland. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council forms a court of appeal from the colonies and dependencies.

78. *Who appoints the judges in the different courts throughout the United Kingdom?*—Excepting as concerns certain 'duchies palatine,' all judges are appointed by the crown, and hold office for life.

79. *What is a 'duchy palatine'?*—It is a division of country formerly under the distinct government of a duke. There are two such duchies in England—Cornwall and Lancaster.

80. *When was the duchy of Cornwall created?*—It was created in 1377, in favour of Edward the Black Prince, and by act of parliament, remains under the jurisdiction of the Prince of Wales, as hereditary Duke of Cornwall, who appoints the judges in the duchy, and draws from it certain revenues.

81. *What is the legal position of the duchy of Lancaster?*—That duchy was forfeited to the crown in the reign of Edward IV. The crown now appoints a Chancellor to the duchy as a removable minister, by whom an attorney-general and other functionaries are nominated, with equity jurisdiction.

82. *What is 'trial by jury'?*—It is the trial of alleged criminals by a jury or body of individuals impartially selected, according to prescribed forms, from the community. The duty of the jury consists in determining whether the facts charged against a prisoner are proved.

83. *Is trial by jury of ancient origin?*—Yes ; it is an Anglo-Saxon institution, and forms an important safeguard against arbitrary authority.

84. *Is trial by jury conducted uniformly in the United Kingdom?*—No; in England and Ireland, a jury on a criminal case consists of 12 individuals, who must be unanimous in their decisions. In Scotland, the jury consists of 15, a majority of whom decides.

85. *What is the 'grand jury'?*—It is a body of individuals summoned by sheriffs in different localities to determine whether cases of alleged crime may be brought to trial. The institution of grand jury, however, does not exist in Scotland, where its duties as respects criminal charges are performed by a public prosecutor, styled Lord Advocate, who is assisted by various 'Deputes.'

86. *Is trial by jury employed in civil cases?*—Yes; it is applied in connection with the chief civil courts in the United Kingdom, principally in relation to questions of damage for alleged injuries.

87. *What are 'Procurators-Fiscal'?*—They are public investigators and prosecutors of crime in Scotland, connected with county and civic jurisdictions, and are subordinate to the Lord Advocate. The term 'fiscal' is from the Latin *fiscus*, signifying the crown exchequer.

88. *What is a diplomatist?*—The term signifies one who conducts negotiations between sovereigns; this duty, formerly assigned to heralds, is now committed to ambassadors and special envoys. The term diplomatist is from *diploma*, which is derived from a Greek word signifying 'double' or twofold. Anciently, a folded-up letter was called a diploma, and hence *diplomatist* was applied to one who received a folded paper of instructions.

89. *What are Mercantile Consuls?*—They are officers subordinate to ambassadors, whom the state maintains in foreign countries for the protection of its trade and vindication of the rights of its merchants. A consul is expected to render friendly aid to every subject or citizen of the country for which he acts. A consul is not necessarily a native of the country from which he is deputed.

90. *What is meant by the 'exequatur of a consul'?*—The term *exequatur* ('let him execute') is applied to a written recognition of a consul who has been deputed by a foreign country, and authorises him to execute his assigned duties. This exequatur or recognition issues from the crown; in the event of war with the country for which the consul acts, his exequatur is withdrawn.

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Edinburgh :

Printed by W. and R. Chambers.

# Chambers's Historical and Miscellaneous Questions.

By W. CHAMBERS, F.R.S.E., F.G.S.

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## PREFACE.

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THE present work is designed to fulfil an important purpose in EDUCATION—that of bringing clearly into view the leading facts which are supposed to be gained through a long course of instruction. Without proposing to supersede the elementary books usually employed, it offers a certain test of what is presumed to have been previously learned. With such a work in their hands, Schoolmasters, Tutors, Governesses, or Parents, may at once satisfy themselves as to the degree of knowledge on a variety of subjects attained by the young persons under their charge, and for whose intellectual culture they feel a special interest. At the same time—in this age of Competitive Examination—the work offers to candidates for Official Appointments the means of readily and perspicuously calling to remembrance answers to such questions in History, Science, Art, Literature, and General Knowledge, as are likely to be asked of them; thereby, perhaps, saving the reperusal of a multiplicity of books which they would otherwise have to consult and patiently study.

Another order is the *Monotrémata*, to which the ornithorhynchus of Australia belongs.

89. *Mention another order.*—The *Insectivora*, which includes hedgehogs, moles, shrews, and other obscure animals.

90. *Proceed.*—The order *Rodentia*, or gnawing animals, comprehending the squirrel, rat, mouse, beaver, hare, and guinea-pig.



Examples of Animals belonging to the orders Marsupialia, Insectivora, Rodentia, Ruminantia, Pachydermata, and Carnivora.

91. *Are there not some marine mammalia?*—Yes; the order of the *Cetacea*, which includes dolphins, porpoises, and whales; and the family of *Phocidæ*, or seals.

92. *What animals are included in the order Ruminantia?*—The camel, stag, antelope, goat, sheep, cow, giraffe, and buffalo; all live on grass, and derive their name as an order, from 'ruminating' or chewing the cud.

93. *Which compose the order Pachydermata?*—This term implies animals with a thick skin; in this order are included the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, tapir, hog, horse, and ass.

94. *Which animals are comprehended in the order Carnivora?* Those which live on flesh, and are provided with teeth for the purpose; in this order are very ferocious wild animals.

95. *How is the order carnivora divided?*—Into five families, the first of which is the *Felidæ*, or cat-tribe, including the domestic and wild cat, lion, tiger, leopard, and lynx; all possessing great power of leaping on and devouring prey.

96. *Which is the second family of carnivora?*—The *Canidæ* or dog-tribe, which includes the dog, wolf, fox, and jackal.

97. *Which animals compose the order Cheiroptera?*—The cheiroptera are generally creatures which fly about by night, and live on insects, of which the bat is a well-known specimen.

98. *What does Linnæus call this order of animals?*—He

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